MYSTIC... THE MOST EERIE STORIES EVER TOLD!

MYSTIC

NO. 7
10¢

ATLAS

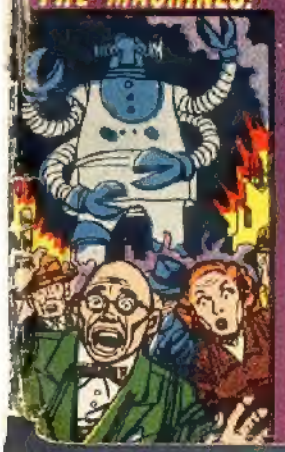
MARCH

DON'T MISS THESE MYSTIC TALES!

"OUT OF THE NIGHT!"

"BEWARE... THE BEES!"

"THE MACHINES!"



UNTOLD HORROR WAITS IN THE TOMB!

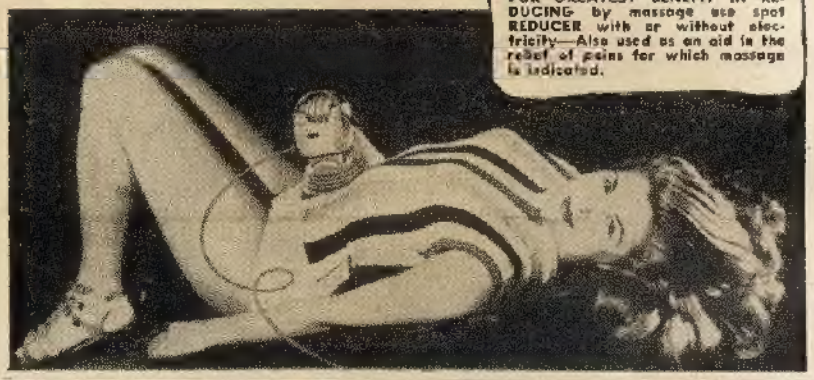
Reducing Specialist Says: **LOSE WEIGHT** Where It Shows Most **REDUCE** MOST ANY PART OF THE BODY WITH

UNDERWRITERS LABORATORY APPROVED

Spot Reducer

Relaxing • Soothing Penetrating Massage

PLUG IN GRASP HANDLE AND APPLY



FOR GREATEST BENEFIT IN REDUCING by massage use spot REDUCER with or without electricity—Also used as an aid in the relief of pains for which massage is indicated.

TAKE OFF EXCESS WEIGHT!

Don't Stay FAT—You Can LOSE POUNDS and INCHES SAFELY Without Risking HEALTH

Take pounds off—keep slim and trim with Spot Reducer! Remarkable new invention which uses one of the most effective reducing methods employed by masseurs and turkish baths—MASSAGE!

LIKE a magic wand, the "Spot Reducer" obeys your every wish. Most any part of your body where it is loose and flabby, wherever you have extra weight and inches, the "Spot Reducer" can aid you in acquiring a youthful, slender and graceful figure. The beauty of this scientifically designed Reducer is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. No exercises or strict diets. No steambaths, drugs or laxatives.

With the SPOT REDUCER you can now enjoy the benefits of RELAXING, SOOTHING massage in the privacy of your own home! Simple to use—just plug in, grasp handle and apply over most any part of the body—stomach, hips, chest, neck, thighs, arms, buttocks, etc. The relaxing, soothing massage breaks down FATTY TISSUES, tones the muscles and flesh, and the increased awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat—helps you regain and keep a firmer and more GRACEFUL FIGURE!

YOUR OWN PRIVATE MASSEUR AT HOME

When you use the Spot Reducer, it's almost like having your own private masseur at home. It's fun reducing this way! It not only helps you reduce and keep slim—but also aids in the relief of those types of aches and pains—and tired nerves that can be helped by massage! The Spot Reducer is handsomely made of light weight aluminum and rubber and truly a beautiful invention you will be thankful you own. AC 110 volts. Underwriters Laboratory approved.

TRY THE SPOT REDUCER 10 DAYS FREE IN YOUR OWN HOME!

Mail this coupon with only $1 for your Spot Reducer on approval. Pay postman $8.95 plus delivery—or send $9.95 (full price) and we ship postage prepaid. Use it for ten days in your own home. Then if not delighted return Spot Reducer for full purchase price refund. Don't delay! You have nothing to lose—except ugly, embarrassing, undesirable pounds of FAT. MAIL COUPON now!

ALSO USE IT FOR ACHES AND PAINS

CAN'T SLEEP:

Relax with electric Spot Reducer. See how soothing its gentle massage can be. Helps you sleep when massage can be of benefit.

MUSCULAR ACHES:

A handy helper for transient relief of discomforts that can be aided by gentle, relaxing massage.

LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

USED BY EXPERTS

Thousands have lost weight this way — in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, necks, buttocks, etc. The same method used by stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The Spot Reducer can be used in your spare time, in the privacy of your own room.

ORDER IT TODAY!

MAIL THIS 10 DAY FREE TRIAL COUPON NOW!

SENT ON APPROVAL—MAIL COUPON NOW!

SPOT REDUCER CO., Dept. E 734
318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey

Please send me the Spot Reducer for 10 days trial period. I enclose $1. Upon arrival I will pay postman only $8.95 plus postage and handling. If not delighted I may return SPOT REDUCER within 10 days for prompt refund of full purchase price.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

☐ SAVE POSTAGE—check here if you enclose $9.95 with coupon. We pay all postage and handling charges. Same money back guarantee applies.

LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

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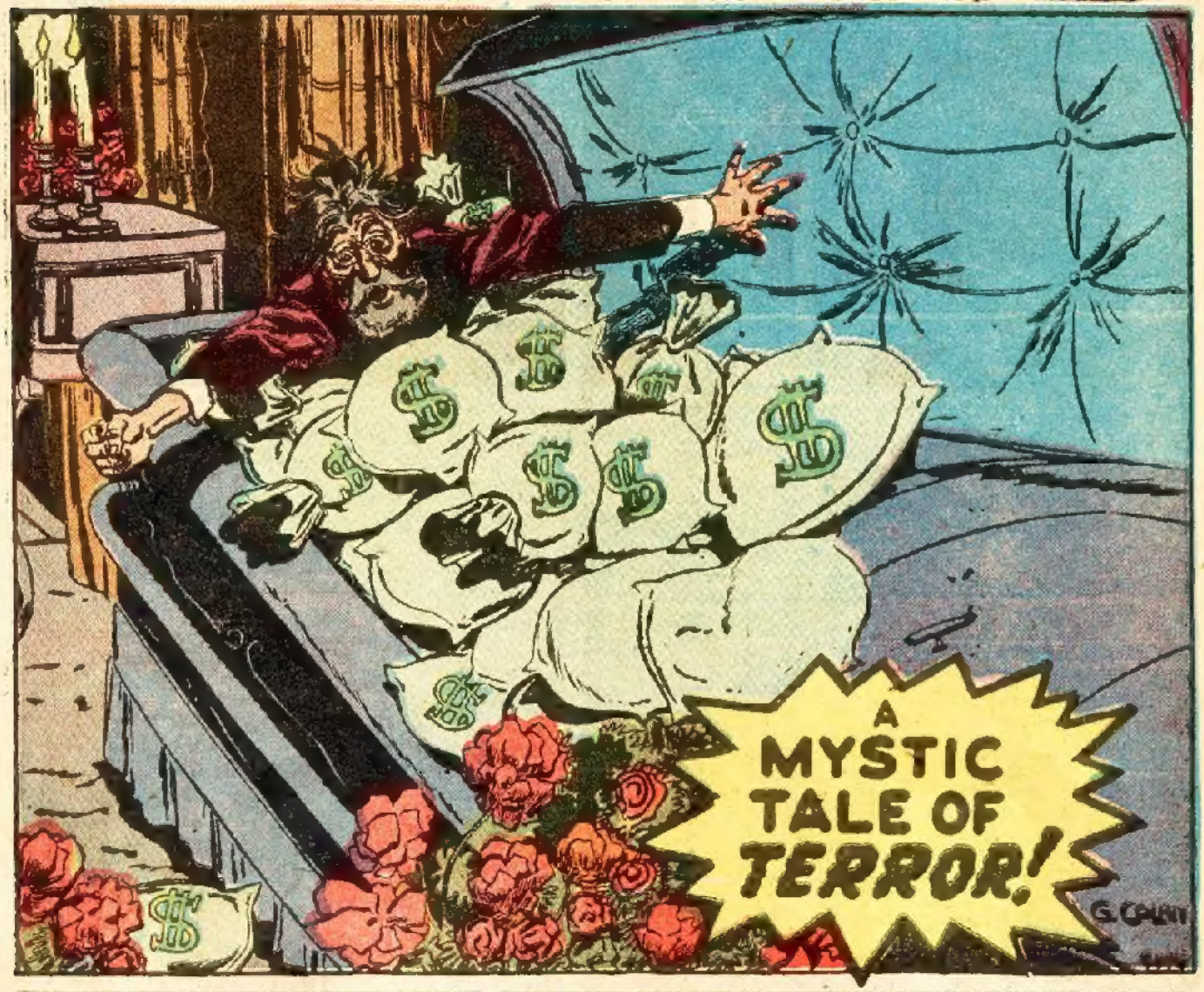
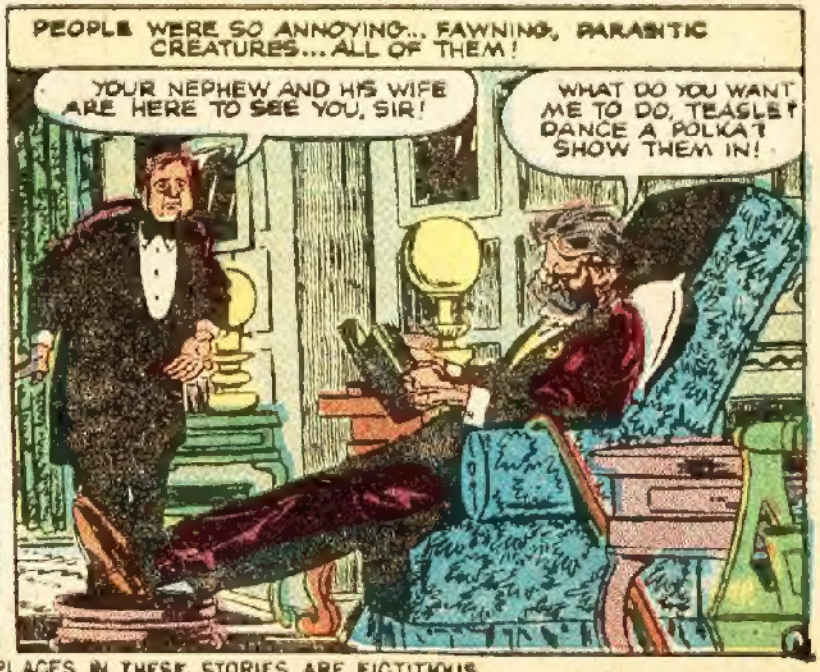
"THE TOMB"



THAT DAY...THAT DAY I FIRST HAD THE GREAT IDEA...I WAS COMING HOME FROM A BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING! I REMEMBER EVERY DETAIL..
WE ARE HOME, MR. WORTH!
WELL, DON'T STAND HERE LIKE A DUMB NINNY! GET THE CAR INTO THE GARAGE!


PEOPLE WERE SO ANNOYING... FAWNING, PARASITIC CREATURES... ALL OF THEM!
YOUR NEPHEW AND HIS WIFE ARE HERE TO SEE YOU, SIR!
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO, TEAGLE? DANCE A POLKA? SHOW THEM IN!

ALL NAMES AND PLACES IN THESE STORIES ARE FICTITIOUS
ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN ACTUAL PERSONS OR PLACES AND THOSE USED IN THESE STORIES IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL!

MY NEPHEW, GEORGE, AND HIS WIFE... DEAR ALICE! I EYED THEM COOLLY AS THEIR FACES BEAMED WITH SMILES... AS THEIR VOICES COOED...
WELL, WELL! HOW'S MY NEPHEW AND HIS CHARMING WIFE? WHAT BRINGS YOU TO YOUR OLD UNCLE?
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, UNCLE SILAS! YOU KNOW WE NEVER FORGET YOUR BIRTHDAY!
MY BIRTHDAY! AS IF I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT REALLY BROUGHT THEM HERE...
WE BROUGHT YOU SOMETHING! IT ISN'T MUCH...BUT WE HOPE YOU LIKE IT!
A LITTLE TOKEN OF YOUR AFFECTION, EH? ISN'T THAT NICE OF YOU?
WELL, WELL! A VELVET SMOKING JACKET! MUST HAVE SET YOU BACK AT LEAST $ 20! HOW'S YOUR JOB, GEORGE?
I'M WORKING HARD! I'VE ASKED MY BOSS FOR A $ 10 RAISE! IF I GET IT, MAYBE ALICE AND I WILL BE ABLE TO GET THE WASHING MACHINE SHE WANTS!
THAT'S NOT WHAT EITHER OF YOU WANT! $ 10 RAISES! WASHING MACHINES! YOU WANT MY FORTUNE, THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT! MY BIRTHDAY MEANS YOU'RE COUNTING UP ANOTHER YEAR OF MY LIFE, WAITING FOR ME TO DIE! YOU'RE WAITING LIKE SCAVENGERS TO PICK MY BONES, TO GET MY MILLIONS!
OH, UNCLE SILAS! THAT'S NOT TRUE!
I'VE GOT MANY MORE YEARS TO MY LIFE! MAYBE I'LL EVEN OUTLIVE YOU TWO! I'M TIRED OF YOUR TRYING TO SHINE UP TO ME! GET OUT OF MY SIGHT! GET OUT!
COME ON, HONEY, WE'RE NOT WANTED HERE!
CRUEL, AM I? I'M SMART, THAT'S ALL... TAKES A SMART MAN TO MAKE MILLIONS, AND THEY'RE WAITING TO GRAB IT ALL FROM ME! WAITING LIKE VULTURES! IF I DID DIE, THEY'D CELEBRATE... IF I DID DIE? BY CRICKETS, I CAN FIX 'EM!
2

A PLAN WAS FORMED IN MY MIND THAT WOULD FIX THEIR CLOCKS...
I'LL PRETEND TO DIE! THERE MUST BE A WAY TO SIMULATE DEATH! I'LL PRETEND AND THEN I'LL SURPRISE THEM WHEN THEY'RE READY TO LIVE LIKE MILLIONAIRES! HA...HA! WON'T THEY GET A JOLT?
I SEARCHED THRU MANY VOLUMES UNTIL I FOUND THE INFORMATION!
THE HILANUS HERB DRUG...8 DROPS OF IT WILL GIVE EVERY APPEARANCE OF DEATH... YET, THE PERSON TAKING IT, WILL BE IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF HIMSELF AND KNOW EVERYTHING GOING ON! PERFECT!
I WAS ABLE TO OBTAIN THE HILANUS HERB DRUG...AND..
WHAT IS IT, SIR? WHAT'S WRONG?
TEASLE! MY HEART.. (GROAN! MY HEART! CALL A DOCTOR! CALL MY NEPHEW... I'M DYING... ARGHHH!
NOW...THE DRUG!
BY THE TIME EVERYONE ARRIVED..I WAS "DEAD"!
THE HEART ATTACK WAS FATAL! THE OLD MAN'S GONE!
POOR UNCLE SILAS... HE DIDN'T GET ANY REAL PLEASURE FROM LIFE!
NO PLEASURE? I WAS ENJOYING THE BIGGEST JOKE OF MY LIFE RIGHT THEN! THE DRUG WAS ACTING PERFECTLY! I HAD FULL CONTROL OF MYSELF! THE NIGHT BEFORE MY "FUNERAL" I SLIPPED STEALTHILY OUT OF MY COFFIN!
THEY'RE GOING TO BURY ME IN THIS MAUSOLEUM! I'LL FIX THE DOOR SO I CAN GET OUT! FANCY TOMB THEY'RE GIVING ME... TO BE PAID OUT OF MY MONEY.. SUCH EXTRAVAGANCE!
MY FUNERAL WAS A BORE TO ME...I HAD TO LISTEN TO A LONG FLOWERY SPEECH BY THE MINISTER...
...AND MERCY ON HIS SOUL!
ALL THIS MUSH AND SNIVELING... CROCODILE TEARS! AND GEORGE AND ALICE LEADING THE PARADE OF MOURNERS! BUT WAIT... I'LL HAVE THE LAST BIG LAUGH!

I LAY IN MY TOMB...IN MY COFFIN.. WAITING FOR THE VOICES, THE FAKE TEARS, ALL OF IT, TO FADE AWAY! THEN NIGHT CAME ... I STEALTHILY LEFT MY COFFIN, MY TOMB...

I'LL RETURN TO MY HOUSE AND HIDE IN THE CELLAR! TOMORROW MORNING, THE WILL IS TO BE READ! I WOULDN'T MISS THAT FOR THE WORLD!

THE NEXT MORNING, PROMPTLY AT 10, MY LAWYER READ THE BIG NEWS OFFICIALLY TO GEORGE AND ALICE...

...AND TO MY NEPHEW, GEORGE WORTH, I BEQUEATH MY ENTIRE FORTUNE, TOTALLING $ 48,695,032! SIGNED... SILAS WORTH!

SO MUCH MONEY! I NEVER KNEW THERE WAS SO MUCH IN THE WORLD! WHAT WILL WE DO WITH IT ALL?

EVERYTHING WE NEVER COULD DO BEFORE, HONEY!

AS I LISTENED, CONCEALED BEHIND A DRAPERY, I COULD HARDLY KEEP FROM LAUGHING OUT LOUD...

GEORGE, DEAR... LET'S START PLANNING! WE CAN DO SUCH WONDERFUL THINGS!

LET THEM BUILD UP THEIR DREAMS! I'LL BURST THEIR BUBBLE SOON ENOUGH!

I KEPT ON FOLLOWING THEM... LISTENING...HEARING...

THIS GRAND ESTATE... EVERYTHING...ALL OURS! WE'LL HAVE WONDERFUL PARTIES!

WHEN WE GET BACK FROM OUR TRIP AROUND THE WORLD! WE'RE GOING TO ENJOY THESE MILLIONS!

RAVE ON, YOU FOOLS!

FOR AWHILE LONGER I LET THEM BUILD THEIR GOLDEN CASTLES...AND THEN... THEN I CONFRONTED THEM...

HERE'S AROUND-THE-WORLD CRUISE, HONEY...ONLY $ 35,000... WITH ALL LUXURIES!

ONLY $ 35,000! OF WHOSE MONEY?

SEE, I'M ALIVE! I ONLY PRETENDED TO DIE...YOU'RE PAUPERS AGAIN! GET OUT! GET OUT, I SAY! I'LL HAVE TEASLE THROW YOU OUT! TEASLE! TEASLE!

HONEY, BUY THE SWELLEST CLOTHES YOU CAN FIND! DON'T STINT! REMEMBER WE HAVE 48 MILLION PLUS... AND WE CAN AFFORD A FEW MILLION TO CHARITY TOO!

A MOMENT LATER, TEASLE APPEARED, BUT HE, LIKE GEORGE AND ALICE, ALSO IGNORED ME...

DINNER IS SERVED!

SWELL! THANKS, TEASLE! WE'LL START WITH CHAMPAGNE... AND, TEASLE, WE WANT YOU TO KNOW WE ARE DOUBLING YOUR SALARY!

THANK YOU, KIND SIR!

STOP IT! LISTEN TO ME!

THEY KEPT ON IGNORING ME! IT WAS AS IF THEY DIDN'T SEE ME...IN DESPERATION I WENT TO MY LAWYER...

...AND I ONLY PRETENDED TO DIE! I WANT GEORGE, ALICE AND TEASLE THROWN OUT! I'LL COMPLETELY DISINHERIT MY NEPHEW! LISTEN! *LISTEN TO ME!*

PARTY TONIGHT? *FINE... EVERYTHING'S* FINE NOW THAT OLD SILAS KICKED OFF...THE OLD CRAB!

IT WAS NO USE! I TRIED THE POLICE NEXT! I TRIED EVERYONE...BUT NO ONE HEARD ME! I PASSED THRU STREETS UNNOTICED! A FEAR BEGAN TO CLAW ME...COLD TERROR!

IT'S AS IF I'M REALLY DEAD! DEAD? NO...NO...I... COULDN'T HAVE *REALLY* DIED...

I KNEW...AT LAST! AS I GLANCED INTO A MIRROR, THE TERRIBLE TRUTH COULD BE HELD BACK NO LONGER...

NO REFLECTION! I AM DEAD! *THE DRUG..* IT WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME! THE DRUG STOPPED MY HEART... NO ONE CAN SEE ME! NO ONE CAN HEAR ME...OR FEEL ME... I AM REALLY GONE... *DEAD!*

MY LIFE WAS OVER! SUDDENLY I FELT A WILD YEARNING TO RETURN TO MY TOMB...MY HOME... THE PLACE WHERE I BELONGED! I HASTENED TO MY GRAVE...

LOCKED! I'M LOCKED OUT! NO...NO...IT'S GOT TO OPEN! I WANT TO GET BACK INTO MY RESTING PLACE... I MUST... I MUST! THE DEAD MUST REST!

BUT I COULDN'T GET INTO MY TOMB! I TRIED EVERY WAY TO UNLOCK THE DOOR...THERE WAS JUST ONE HOPE ...

I'LL WAIT OUTSIDE OF MY TOMB! SOMEONE IS SURE TO GET THE MAUSOLEUM UNLOCKED IN ORDER TO PUT FLOWERS OF REMEMBRANCE ON MY COFFIN! SURELY, GEORGE AND ALICE... OR TEASLE...OR... I KNEW SO MANY PEOPLE! AND WHEN THE DOOR OPENS, I'LL WALK IN!

15 YEARS HAVE PASSED...AND I'M STILL WAITING FOR THE DOORS TO BE OPENED...

SOMEONE! *ANYONE!* PLACE A FLOWER ON MY COFFIN! DOESN'T ANYONE HAVE A KIND THOUGHT FOR SILAS WORTH? I'M DEAD... I'M AT LEAST ENTITLED TO A COFFIN! OPEN THE DOORS, SOMEONE...AND LET ME REST IN PEACE!

THE END

THE WISH!

GEORGE couldn't concentrate on his work at the office. All he knew was that this strange creature had come up to him, and said:

"You have one wish, George. You can make it up until midnight."

It had shocked the wits out of him. After all, it wasn't every day you saw a little man with three eyes and a horn in the center of his head. The little guy had said something about George's having helped him win a bet—something to do with the old flower-woman that he'd refused to help across the street—and the creature had to repay him by giving him one wish. That was the rule, he had said, and it had to be made before midnight. So you couldn't really *blame* him for not being able to concentrate on *accounts receivable* and the rest of the office work.

He was going slightly mad.

There was only one wish, and it had to be the right one. No rushing into it or anything, going around wasting it like those people in *stories* always did. There were so many things he really *needed*. He knew very well that he was the ugliest man in the world . . . and that his twisted limbs matched his face. He knew that people snickered when they looked at him, or turned their faces away so that they wouldn't have to look at him. *He* knew it. And he hated them for it. All of them.

Especially he hated Shirly Krankheit, the gorgeous little blonde that worked the switchboard. For a long time George had worshipped her, but she poked fun at him like all the rest . . . and he hated her for it. Vehemently. And there was Mr. Kromberger up in Accounting. Kromberger always made cracks about him. And so did Frank Kelly, the office boy. He hated them all. It would really be some fun, he thought, to use that wish to make every one of them — maybe everyone in the whole world — die a violent horrible death.

But that would be a silly waste. What would it be? Handsomeness? Wealth? A beautiful wife? He couldn't decide. He just *couldn't*.

The bell rang for lunch, and George reached down in his desk and pulled out the paper bag that contained two home-made sandwiches. He opened the wax-paper, but he decided he wasn't hungry. Here it was 12:00 noon, and that left only twelve hours in which to decide.

"Three-eyes! Hey, you with the horn! Come on in!" he whispered, or rather just thought, *hard*, as the creature had instructed him if he wanted to contact him.

The bolt of lightning didn't startle or worry him, and neither did the billowing smoke that filled the office, as the thing appeared. George had been told that he, and only he could see or hear him — or anything that came with him.

"Yes, George?" said the little man.

"Uh — I mean, I'm not ready for the wish yet. I just wanted to ask you a question. You said I could, you remember."

"Yes?"

"Well, er — I mean, I just wanted to know something. What if I wished for Shirley Krankheit to fall in love with me. Could you do it?"

"Yes, I can do anything you want."

"Well, what I mean is, *how* would it work? How would you go about doing it?"

The spectral character grinned. "You're not missing a bet, are you George? All right. It's simple. I arrange for her to have an accident. Her face gets all smashed up. When she's the ugliest woman in the world, so that no one else will have her . . . she'll settle for you. You'll be all she could get."

The thought of what he had nearly wished for, almost made George sick.

"That's a pretty filthy trick," snarled George.

"Look, no one's *asking* you to make a wish."

That frightened George, and he kept silent for a while. Then he said: "What if I asked you to make me handsome? How would that work?"

"Likewise, simple," said the creature, "I'll arrange for you to get into an accident. One which will break just the right bones. Then we'll get a good plastic surgeon to fix you up. Of course, *you'll* have to *pay* for the operation with your life's savings, but you'll be real

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY

Meet The Man...

Who Can Tell You How To Lick

PIMPLES

ACNE AND ALL OTHER EXTERNALLY CAUSED SKIN BLEMISHES And Make Them

DISAPPEAR FROM SIGHT... *instantly!*

Here is Mr. John A. Rubine, Ph.G. — a well-known pharmacist who has spent almost 20 years trying to solve one of the most vexing problems of youth — and adults too — unsightly, acne pimples, blackheads and similar externally caused skin conditions.

They are indeed a serious problem, for nothing can do more to ruin your chances of success and popularity than a face made ugly with pimples and blackheads. And, if neglected, acne pimples may leave permanent scars and pits.

Mr. Rubine, after much experimenting and research in cooperation with doctors and chemists, found what he was seeking — a formula that would lick acne pimples and other externally caused skin blemishes. He succeeded beyond his fondest expectations and he was so proud of his treatment that he gave it his own name — **RUBIN-EX.**

HE BLESSES RUBIN-EX! No one can realize the humiliation — almost disgrace — of a face marred by pimples and blackheads. I had them so bad that I felt no one wanted to look at me. Today my pimples are gone — and I bless Rubin-Ex — that did it.— Mr. Bob T.R., Long Island.

LUCKY DAY FOR HER! For years I was embarrassed and ashamed of my pimply face and blotchey complexion. It was a lucky day for me when I was told about Rubin-Ex. My pimples disappeared from sight instantly and my complexion improved 200%.—Miss Jane G.L., Bronx.

DOUBLE ACTION! DOUBLE QUICK RESULTS!

The sensational Rubin-Ex treatment works two ways:
A. Makes acne pimples and all other skin blemishes INSTANTLY DISAPPEAR FROM SIGHT.
B. Its medication cleans up pimples, blackheads.
When thousands of tiny oil glands discharge more oil than your skin can absorb, the excess oil picks up and holds tiny particles of dust, dirt, grime, grit, bacteria. This foreign matter soon clogs up and enlarges your pores, form blackheads, cause infection and soon you have a fine crop of ugly, red acne pimples.
Rubin-Ex FORMULA #1 is a special cleaning agent that really gets down in the skin pores and thoroughly cleans them out as no soap can. It also removes excess oil thus correcting excessive oiliness in your skin, one of the principal causes of pimples and blackheads.

Rubin-Ex FORMULA #2 is great news. When applied to your face it makes pimples and other unsightly blemishes disappear from sight instantly.
And while it is hiding your ugly blemishes from critical eyes, its medication is actually at work to clean them up. It contains an ingredient that relieves the fiery itching, another to soothe and heal the irritation, and still another which gently and harmlessly flakes off the dead, hard outer skin, leaving your face and complexion much smoother and clearer. You can use Rubin-Ex day and night, for it is neutral when applied and does not interfere with make-up. Makes an excellent powder base.

MR. JOHN A. RUBINE PHG.
SKINTEX CORP.
69-47 218 St., Dept. MC3 • Bayside, L. I., N. Y.

HOW YOU MAY TRY RUBIN-EX AT OUR RISK

Mr. Rubine is so sure that his treatment will improve your skin and complexion in just 10 days that he is making this No Risk Offer. He says, "Use Rubin-Ex for 10 days. If you do not notice a marked improvement in your skin and complexion, if you are not entirely pleased and happy with results, your money will be refunded at once." So start now for a clearer, lovelier skin and complexion, the magic way to popularity and success. Order Rubin-Ex today MAIL COUPON NOW.

MR. JOHN A. RUBINE PHG.
SKINTEX CORP., 69-47 218 St., Dept MC3 Bayside, L. I., N. Y.

Dear Mr. Rubine: Please rush me in plain wrapper complete Rubin-Ex treatment. (Formula #1 and #2). It is understood that if I am not completely satisfied with the improvement in my complexion in just 10 days you will return my money. ☐ Find enclosed $2. Cash, Check or Money Order. You are to pay all postal charges.

Name_____ CHECK ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE

Address_____ CHECK COMPLEXION ☐ FAIR ☐ DARK

City_____ Zone_____ State_____

A.P.O.—F.P.O. Canada or Foreign Countries—Add 50c—No C.O.D.

WHERE DO DREAMS END AND REALITY BEGIN...ESPECIALLY IN THE VIVID, IMAGINATIVE BRAIN OF A WRITER? LEE DUNCAN DIDN'T KNOW, AND IT WAS TOO HOT AND HUMID TO THINK ABOUT IT! BESIDES, HE HAD A STORY TO WRITE, AND THERE WAS THE SMOTHERING ROOM, AND THE SWELTERING HEAT, AND THE BUG...THAT CAME...

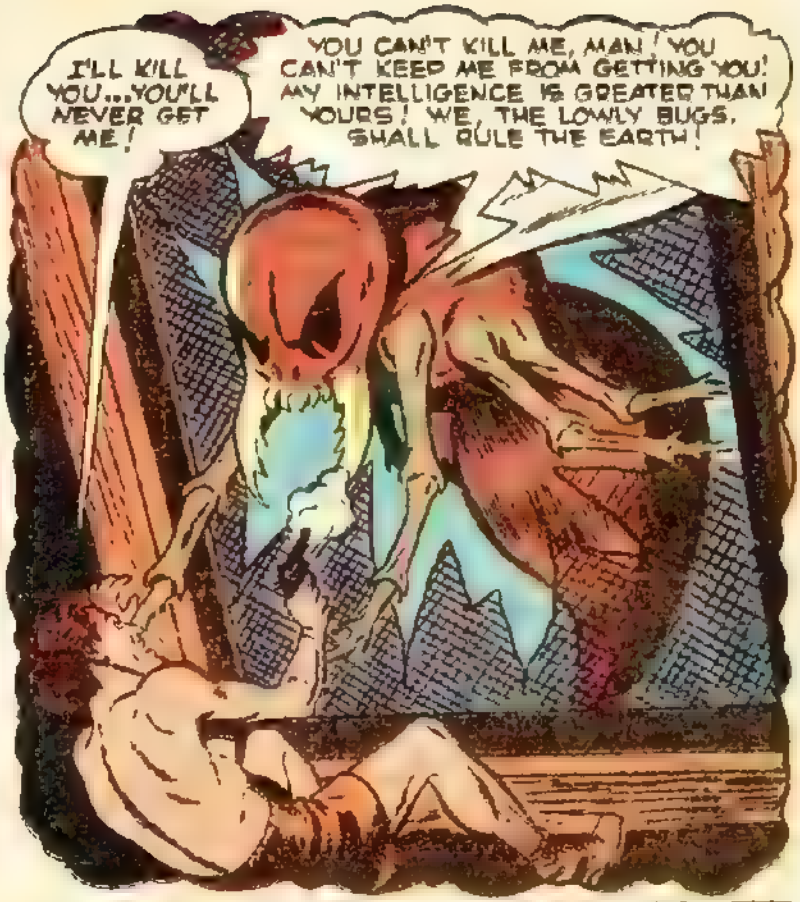
OUT OF THE NIGHT

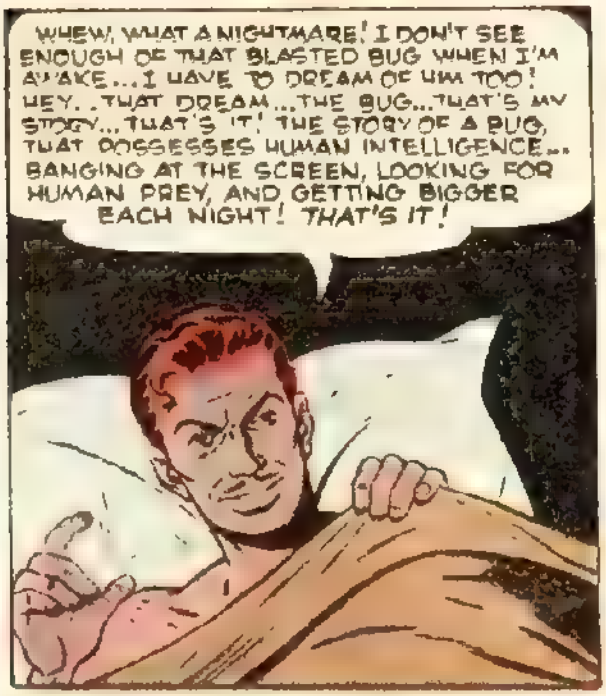
HE HAD COME TO HIS CABIN IN THE WOODS TO WRITE! THE CITY WAS A BLISTERING PILE OF STONE AND CONCRETE UNDER A BRASSY SUN! EVEN HERE, THE HEAT WAS INTOLERABLE, BRINGING LITTLE RELIEF WITH NIGHTFALL!

I'VE GOT TO THINK OF A PLOT FOR THAT STORY ASSIGNMENT! GETTING CLOSE TO THE DEADLINE, AND NOT AN IDEA IN SIGHT!
IT'S THE HEAT... CAN'T THINK AT ALL! WELL, MAYBE TONIGHT WILL BE A LITTLE COOLER.. MAYBE I'LL GET AN IDEA...
CLICK!
LET'S SEE... A STORY FOR MYSTIC MAGAZINE, MARCH ISSUE! IT'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING WEIRD AND STRANGE, YET PLAUSIBLE!
ROYAL
HE SAT THERE, LOOKING AT THE BLANK, WHITE SHEET OF PAPER, BUT NOT SEEING IT, PICKING HIS MIND FOR AN IDEA! BUT HE COULDN'T DIVORCE HIMSELF FROM THE AWFUL HEAT... COULDN'T ALIENATE HIMSELF FROM THE SWEAT THAT SOAKED HIM!
IF IT WOULD ONLY COOL OFF A BIT! I CAN'T THINK! MAYBE IF I JUST START TYPING... ANYTHING AT ALL... MAYBE AN IDEA WILL COME!
THEN THE BUG CAME, SMASHING AGAINST THE SCREEN LIKE A MISSILE, STARTLING HIM... A BIG LOATHSOME THING THAT WINGED ITS WAY OUT OF THE NIGHT!
WHACK!
WHAT THE...? HUH, ONLY A BUG ATTRACTED BY THE LIGHT! WOW, LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THE THING!
IT CLUNG TO THE SCREEN BUZZING, ITS MANY FACETED EYES UNBLINKING, WATCHING THE MAN!
GO ON, BEAT IT, WILL YA? THE HEAT WASN'T ENOUGH, NOW I'VE GOT TO HAVE KING GNATS BUZZING AND SLAMMING AROUND TO ANNOY ME!
BZZZZZZZ
AW, WHAT'S THE USE, I CAN'T WORK TONIGHT! I'LL TURN OUT THE LIGHT AND GET RID OF THAT DRAGON SO I CAN GET SOME SLEEP!
CLICK!
2

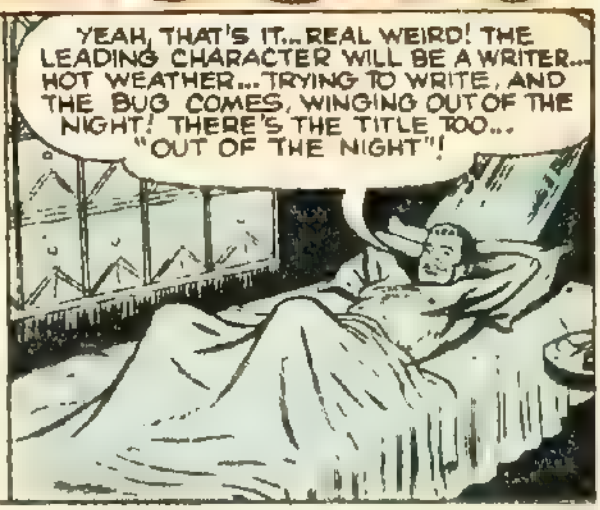
HE LAY IN HIS BUNK IN THE DARK, LISTENING TO THE BUG...BUZZING AND SLAMMING AGAINST THE SCREEN, TRYING TO GET IN! AFTER AWHILE IT GAVE UP AND WENT AWAY...AND LEE DUNCAN SLUMBERED OFF TO DREAMLAND!
THE HEAT CONTINUED, AND LEE HID FROM THE SUN ALL NEXT DAY! THEN, WHEN NIGHTFALL CAME, HE TRIED TO WORK...TO THINK OF A PLOT FOR THE STORY HE MUST DO...
I'VE GOT TO GET A PLOT IDEA TONIGHT OR I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FINISH THIS JOB IN TIME!
WHANG!
BUZZZZ!
YOU AGAIN...OR IS IT YOUR BIG BROTHER? NO...IT'S THE SAME BUG. I REMEMBER THAT PECULIAR, IRREGULAR STRIPE ON ITS BACK! HMM...IT'S GROWN MORE THAN TWICE ITS SIZE SINCE LAST NIGHT!
BZZZZ
HE TRIED TO DISREGARD THE LITTLE MONSTER BUG...BUT HE COULDN'T! HE FELT ITS EYES ON HIM, WATCHING HIS EVERY MOVE...BREAKING HIS LINE OF THOUGHT!
GET OUT OF THERE, WILL YOU? SCAT! YOU BOTHER ME!
BZZZZZZ
MAYBE THE SMOKE WILL DRIVE YOU AWAY!
BRUMMMMMM
THE SMOKE ANGERED THE THING...AND IT SMASHED AGAINST THE SCREEN IN FURY!
ALL RIGHT...YOU WIN! BROTHER, AM I GLAD THERE'S A SCREEN BETWEEN US!
WHAM!

LEE LAY IN THE DARK, LISTENING TO THE MADDENED BUG, AND WORRYING ABOUT THE STORY! THEN THE BUG WINGED AWAY, AND LEE SLEPT...AND DREAMED!

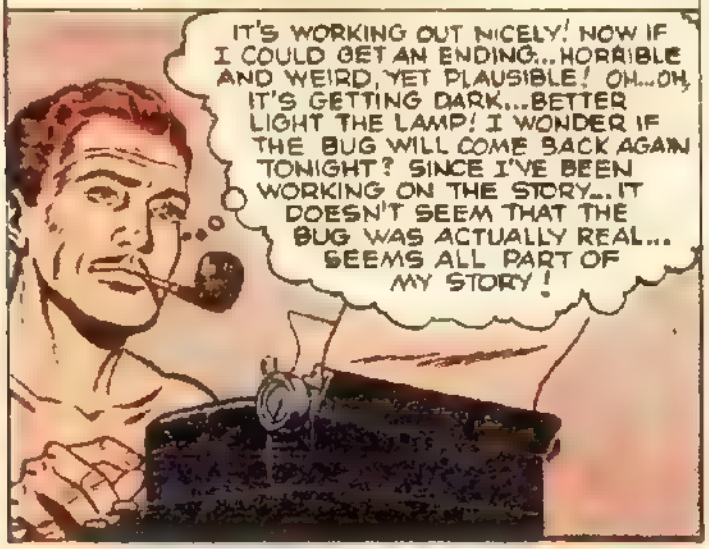




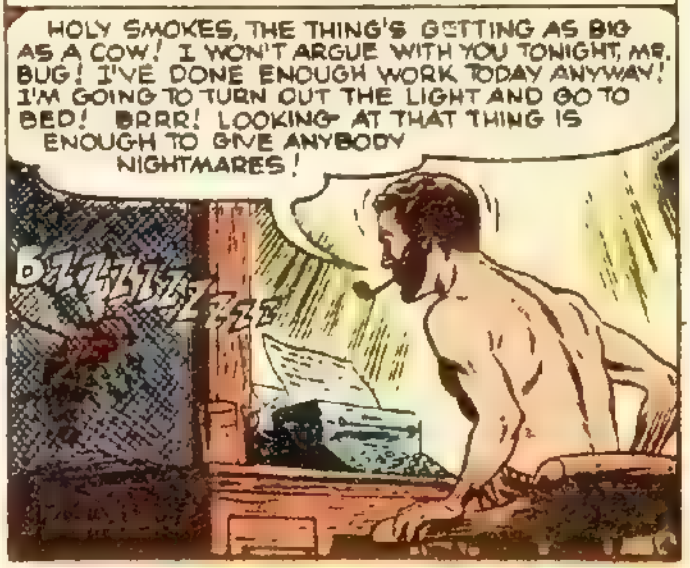
HE WENT BACK TO DREAMLESS SLEEP THEN! HE HAD HIS STORY, THE BASIC PLOT... THE REST WOULD BE EASY!

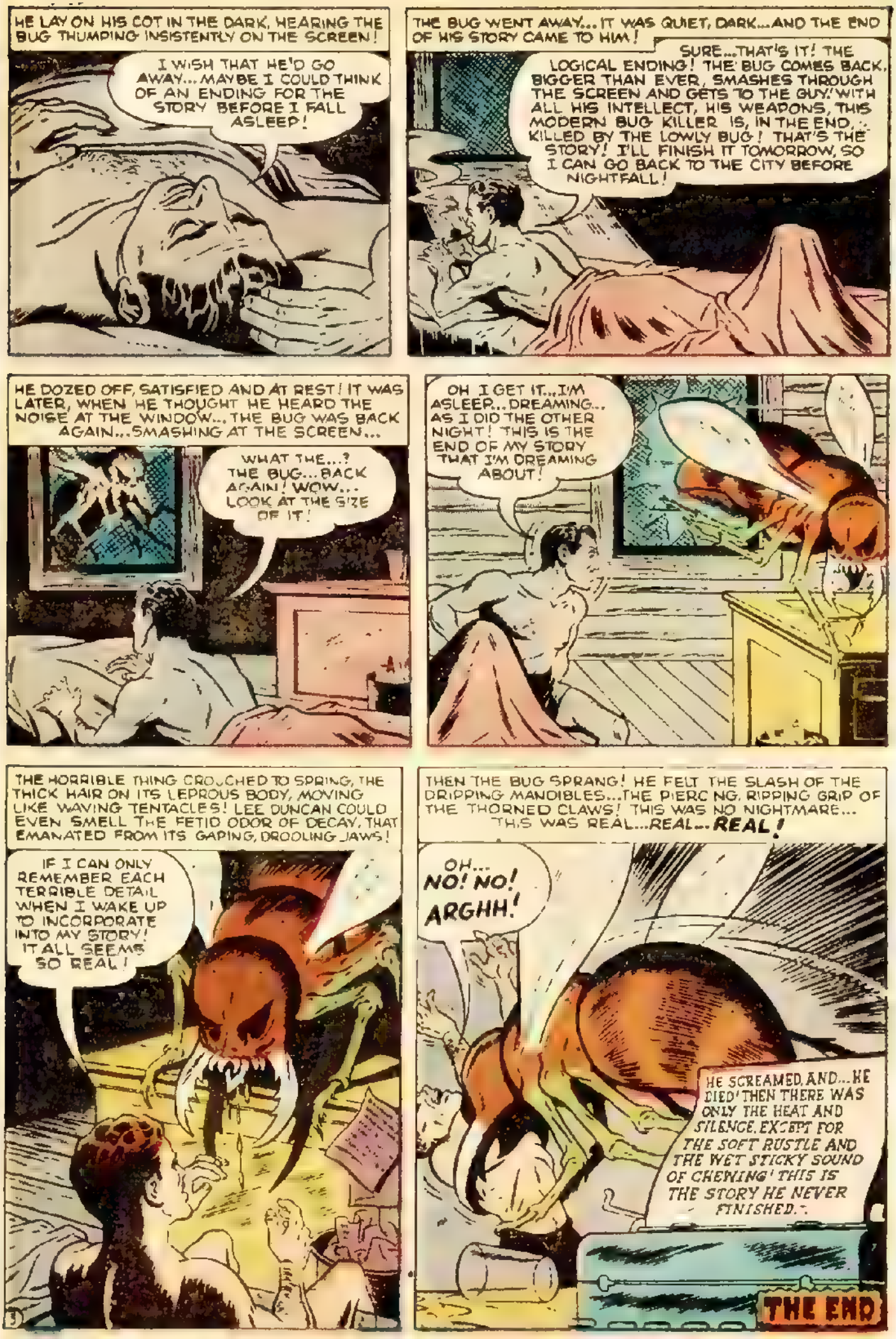


HE AWOKE LATE THE NEXT MORNING! THE HEAT WAS STILL ALMOST UNBEARABLE...BUT HE WORKED! LAYING OUT HIS STORY LINE, STRENGTHENING THE PLOT, GIVING SUBSTANCE AND MEANING TO HIS CHARACTER, AND THE STORY MOOD!



HE LIT THE LAMP AND WENT BACK TO WORK! THEN THE BUG CAME...MUCH LARGER THAN BEFORE, A LOATHSOME, NOCTURNAL BLASPHEMY SPEWED OUT OF THE NETHER WORLD!


HOLY SMOKES, THE THING'S GETTING AS BIG AS A COW! I WON'T ARGUE WITH YOU TONIGHT, MR. BUG! I'VE DONE ENOUGH WORK TODAY ANYWAY! I'M GOING TO TURN OUT THE LIGHT AND GO TO BED! BRRR! LOOKING AT THAT THING IS ENOUGH TO GIVE ANYBODY NIGHTMARES!
BZZZ


HE LAY ON HIS COT IN THE DARK, HEARING THE BUG THUMPING INSISTENTLY ON THE SCREEN!
I WISH THAT HE'D GO AWAY... MAYBE I COULD THINK OF AN ENDING FOR THE STORY BEFORE I FALL ASLEEP!
THE BUG WENT AWAY... IT WAS QUIET, DARK... AND THE END OF HIS STORY CAME TO HIM!
SURE... THAT'S IT! THE LOGICAL ENDING! THE BUG COMES BACK, BIGGER THAN EVER, SMASHES THROUGH THE SCREEN AND GETS TO THE GUY! WITH ALL HIS INTELLECT, HIS WEAPONS, THIS MODERN BUG KILLER IS, IN THE END, KILLED BY THE LOWLY BUG! THAT'S THE STORY! I'LL FINISH IT TOMORROW, SO I CAN GO BACK TO THE CITY BEFORE NIGHTFALL!
HE DOZED OFF, SATISFIED AND AT REST! IT WAS LATER, WHEN HE THOUGHT HE HEARD THE NOISE AT THE WINDOW... THE BUG WAS BACK AGAIN... SMASHING AT THE SCREEN...
WHAT THE...? THE BUG... BACK AGAIN! WOW... LOOK AT THE SIZE OF IT!
OH I GET IT... I'M ASLEEP... DREAMING... AS I DID THE OTHER NIGHT! THIS IS THE END OF MY STORY THAT I'M DREAMING ABOUT!
THE HORRIBLE THING CROUCHED TO SPRING, THE THICK HAIR ON ITS LEPROUS BODY, MOVING LIKE WAVING TENTACLES! LEE DUNCAN COULD EVEN SMELL THE FETID ODOR OF DECAY, THAT EMANATED FROM ITS GAPING, DROOLING JAWS!
IF I CAN ONLY REMEMBER EACH TERRIBLE DETAIL WHEN I WAKE UP TO INCORPORATE INTO MY STORY! IT ALL SEEMS SO REAL!
THEN THE BUG SPRANG! HE FELT THE SLASH OF THE DRIPPING MANDIBLES... THE PIERCING, RIPPING GRIP OF THE THORNED CLAWS! THIS WAS NO NIGHTMARE... THIS WAS REAL... REAL... REAL!
OH... NO! NO! ARGHH!
HE SCREAMED, AND... HE DIED! THEN THERE WAS ONLY THE HEAT AND SILENCE, EXCEPT FOR THE SOFT RUSTLE AND THE WET STICKY SOUND OF CHEWING! THIS IS THE STORY HE NEVER FINISHED...
THE END

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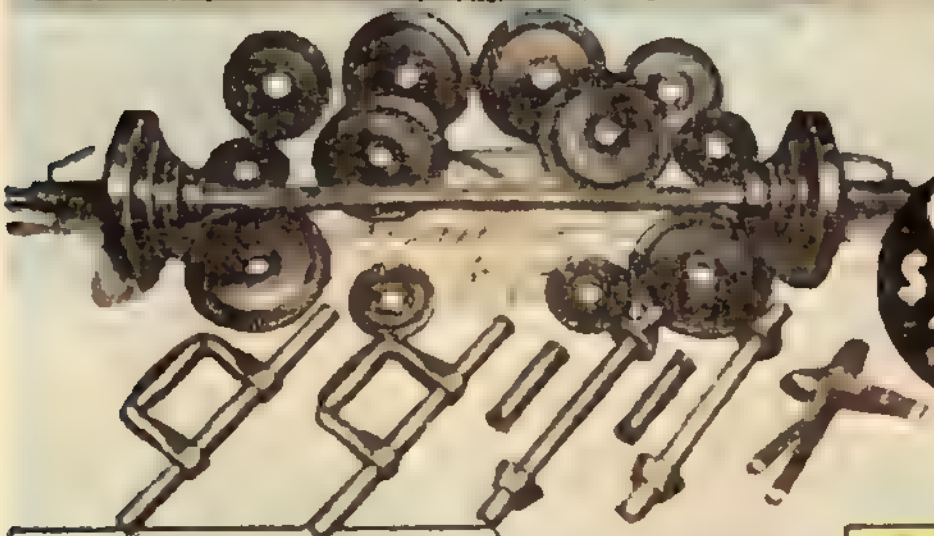
"BODY-BILD" SPECIAL 41-PC. BARBELL SET



ONLY $23.95 Special 115-lb. Barbell Set

GIVEN! Picture Book of Instructions

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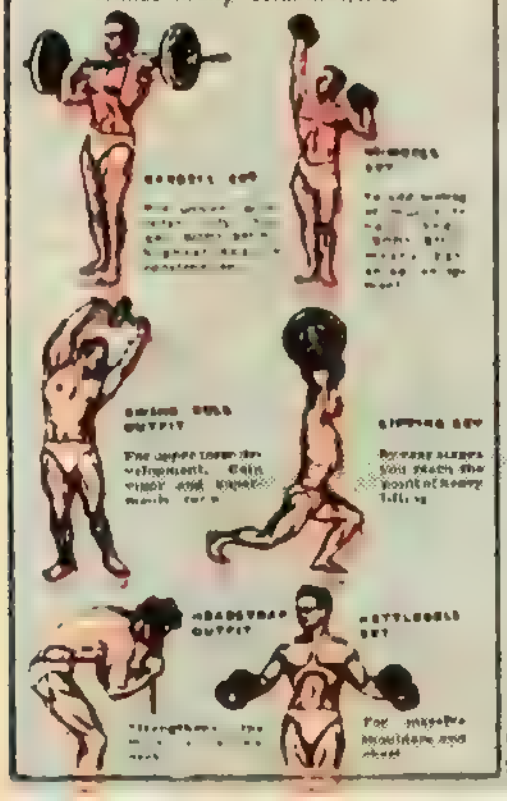

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1 — 4 ft. steel bar	2 — 14" steel bars
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2 — 10 lb. plates	2 — 7" steel bars
4 — 5 lb. plates	2 — 5" steel bars
6 — 2½ lb. plates	1 — Handgrips
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5.	100 lb. Barbell Set	20.95
6.	110 lb. Barbell Set	22.95
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AGE _____ WEIGHT _____ HEIGHT _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ Zone _____ STATE _____

handsome."

"Ugh!" gasped George. He noticed the wicked smile on the other's face. "Couldn't I ask for getting handsome without pain or losing my money?"

"No. That would be three wishes. We're not allowed to combine."

"But," insisted George, "isn't there one wish that will solve all of my problems?"

Silence.

"Isn't there?"

"Yes, there *is*."

"Well," urged George. "What is it?"

"*That* wish has to be made blind. But I wouldn't wish for it if I were you. I'm sure that if you knew what it was you wouldn't ask for it."

George studied the creature carefully. Was he spoofing him? Was he just trying to trick him out of making a very *good* wish? Or was it something that he really wouldn't have taken if he knew about it. He thought, and thought.

"How about money," he said, finally. "How would that work? I'll bet there's a drawback to that one too, like all of the rest. Huh?"

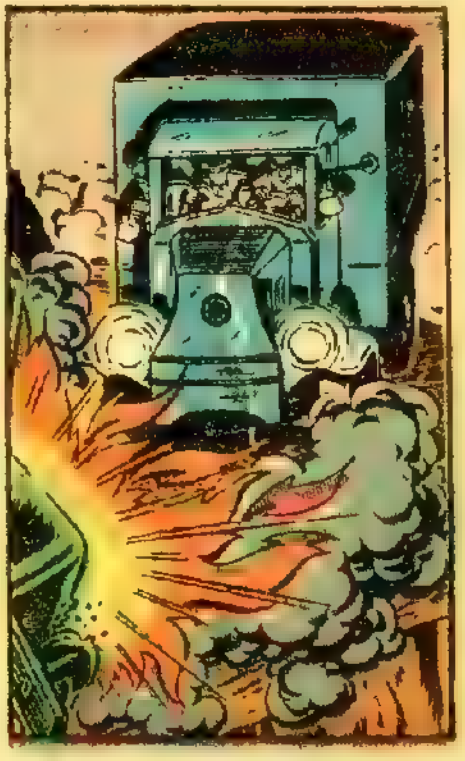
The creature's middle eye closed, as if in meditation, and then finally he said. "Couldn't get you more than $100,000.00, you know."

"But *how*?"

"I'd fix it up for you to rob the payroll tomorrow night. You'd have the money, but of course you'd get caught and go to jail for ten years. But when you came out—"

"Enough! Stop it already! You aren't giving me a wish to help me. Everything I wish for I get, but I lose more than that. Can't I combine a wish . . . like having the money and not going to jail?"

"I've told you already. That would be two wishes, and all you're getting is one wish. The trouble with you, is that you're so selfish and hateful that you can't think of a wish to help someone else. Or asking for something nice, like giving you a better disposition. Just money, handsomeness, and beautiful women. Well, if you want those you're going to have to pay for them."



"How about eternal life?" asked George. He'd been racking his brain instead of listening to the guy. "Could I have that?"

"What for? Life is so horrible for you now. Why would you want to have it like that forever?"

George nodded, absently. He was right. There was nothing for him to do. He laughed to himself at the thought of using his one wish — only one rotten little wish — for somebody else's benefit. There had to be a way to get something out of this. Something that would solve all of his problems in one lump . . . all of his rotten life, his ugliness, lack of money, and need for female companionship.

He wondered about that *special* wish. The one that he had to take without knowing what it was. The creature had advised him against it, but maybe that was just because he didn't like him and was trying to keep him from getting anything good out of the wish. He was a nasty character, and it was certainly obvious that he didn't like him. And if he said it would solve all of his problems, what could be wrong. It was certainly better than all of those other crazy things. Yes that was it. He'd take the gamble and ask the strange little man with the horn in the center of his forehead and the green eye, for the secret wish.

"I'll take the wish you told me about. The one that'll solve all of my problems."

"Is that final? Are you sure that's the one you want?"

"Yes."

"Even though I warned you against it?"

"Yep!"

"All right. You have it. It'll come true sometime today."

So saying, he disappeared. George wondered.

It was later that evening when he was walking to the station from work, that he saw the huge truck bearing down on him. He froze in his tracks, and the truck hit him. In that split second when life changes into death, poor George of the twisted body, and warped mind, knew what he had wished for. The solution to all of his problems. *Death!*

THE END 9499

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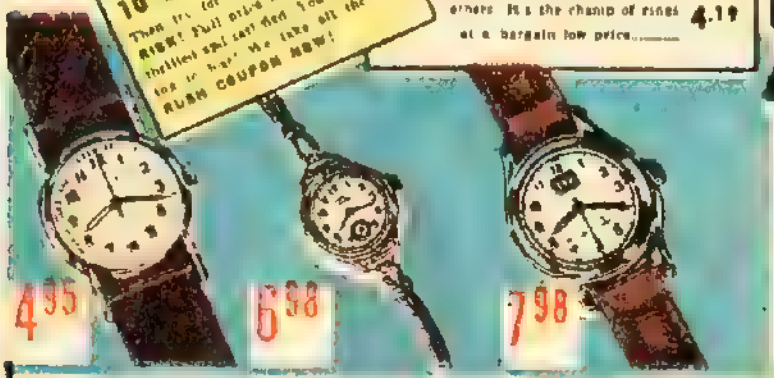

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Extra heavy ring for big time men. 5 Pseudo Diamonds of great brilliancy set in Natural Gold color..... **3.55**

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Your own INITIAL in raised Gold Color Effect set in a RUBY color stone, flanked by 2 Sparkling Pseudo DIAMONDS imported from Europe. Rich Gold Plated. Fashionable! Smart! Wear with pride—enjoy a lifetime. Mention letter desired. Only..... **2.97**

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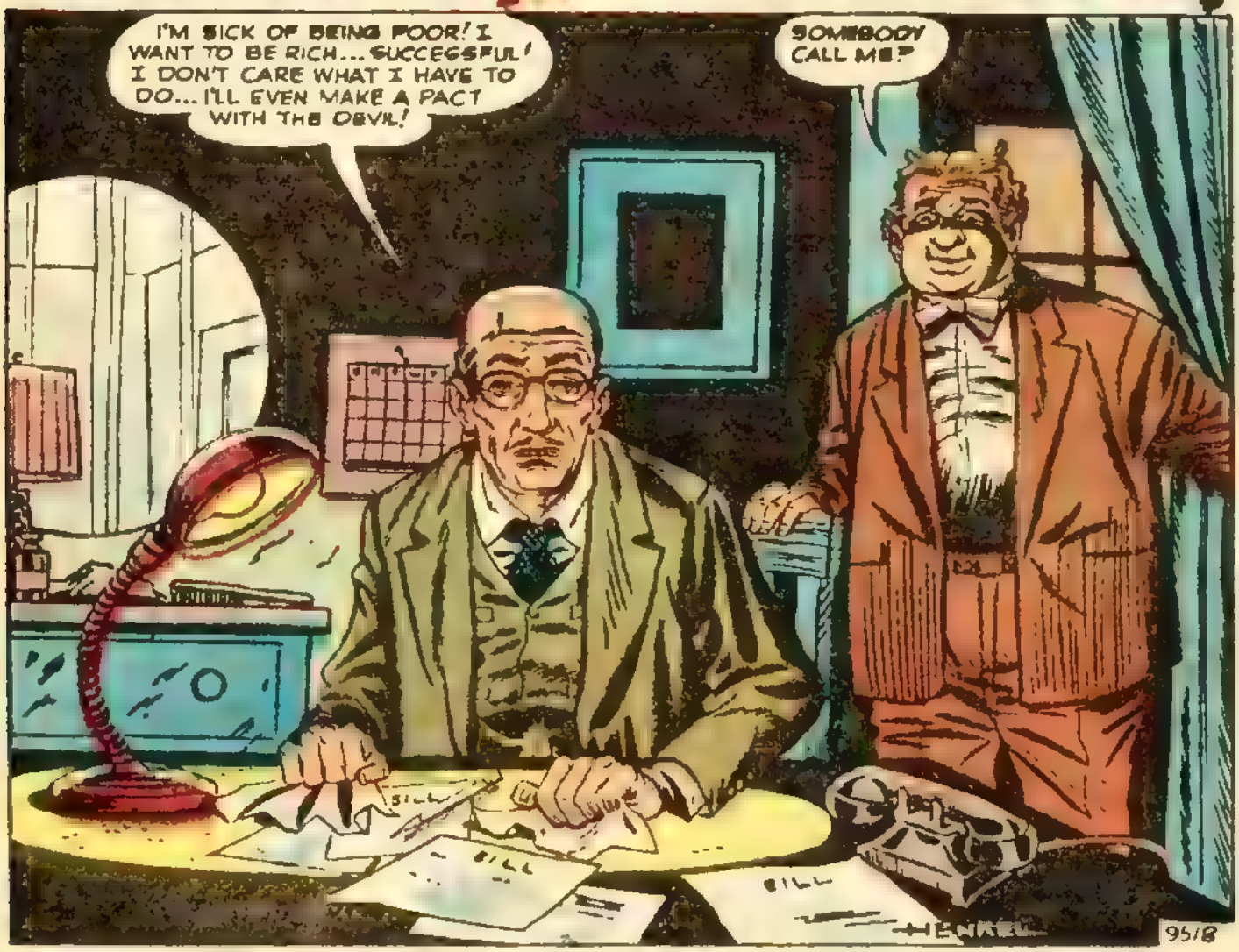
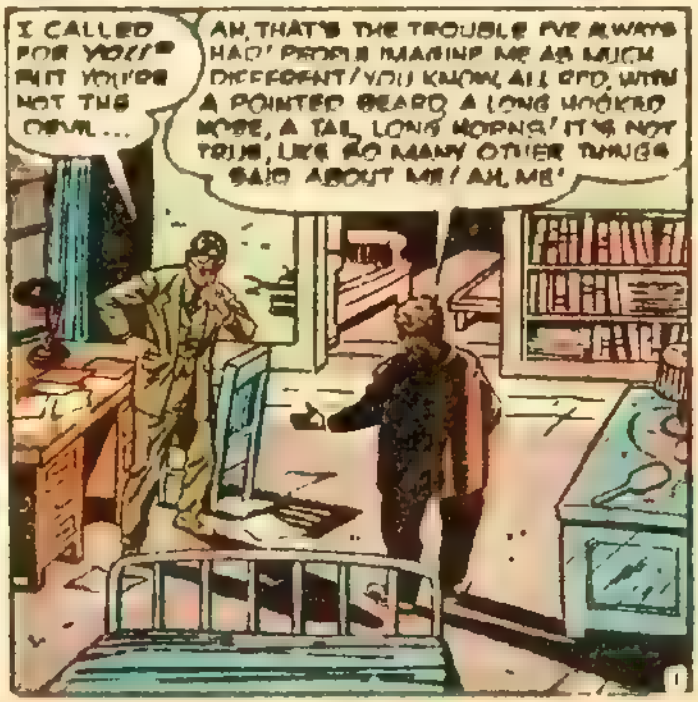
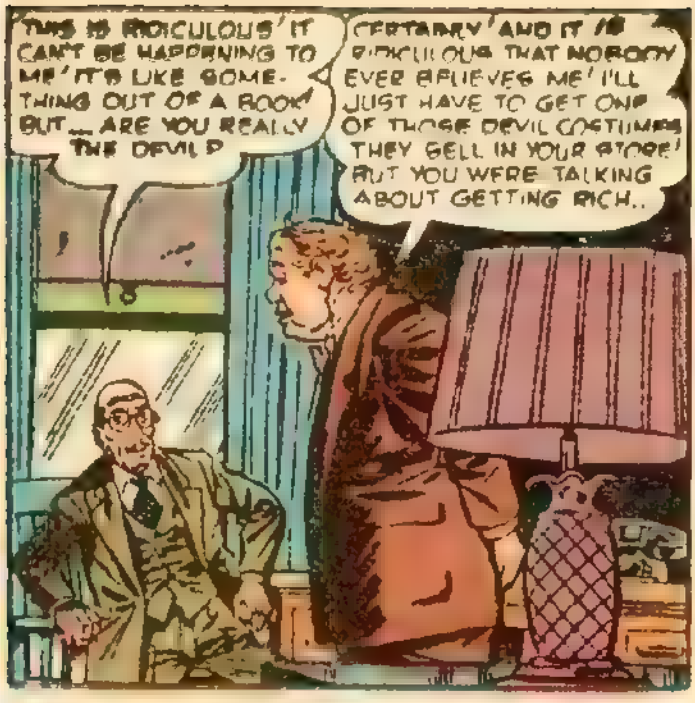
COMPLAINING TOO MUCH CAN BE DANGEROUS, AND IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT, ASK...

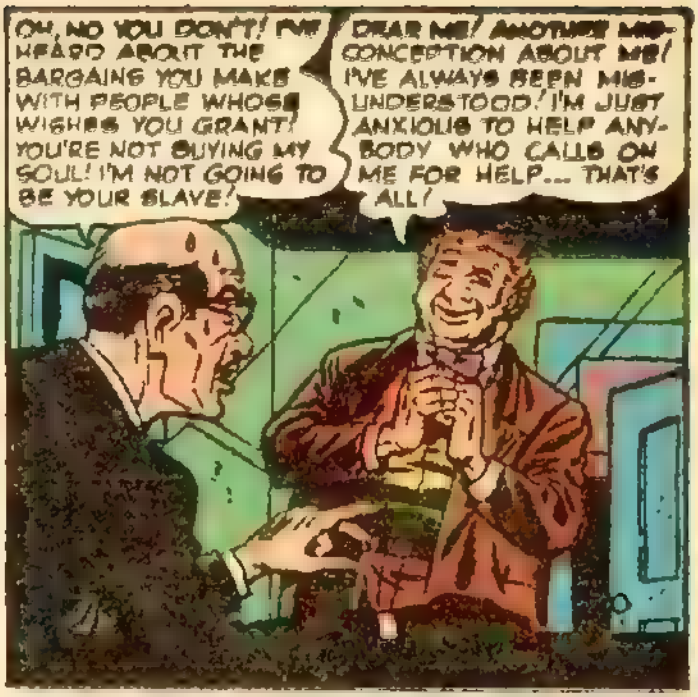
THE MAN WHO MADE A WISH!

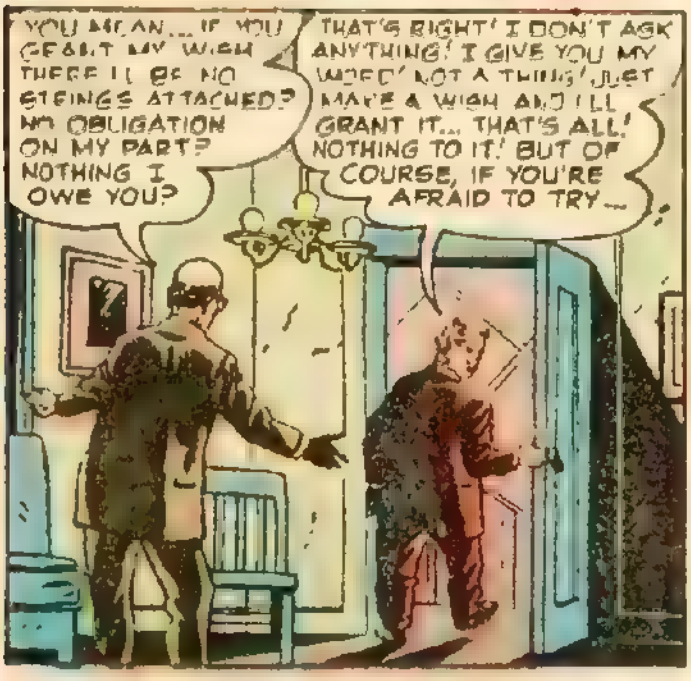

I'M SICK OF BEING POOR! I WANT TO BE RICH... SUCCESSFUL! I DON'T CARE WHAT I HAVE TO DO... I'LL EVEN MAKE A PACT WITH THE DEVIL!
SOMEBODY CALL ME?
BILL
BILL
BILL
HENKLE
95/8

QUITE AN EXPERIENCE, EH? SAYING THOSE WORDS, HEARING A VOICE BEHIND YOU... AND SEEING A KINDLY STRANGER IN YOUR ROOM! BUT THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED TO CLARENCE HOPKINS...
WHAT? WHO ARE YOU... AND HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?
OH, CLARENCE... YOU CALLED FOR ME, SO HERE I AM, READY TO OBLIGE!


I CALLED FOR YOU!? BUT YOU'RE NOT THE DEVIL...
AH, THAT'S THE TROUBLE I'VE ALWAYS HAD! PEOPLE IMAGINE ME AS MUCH DIFFERENT! YOU KNOW, ALL RED, WITH A POINTED BEARD, A LONG HOOKED NOSE, A TAIL, LONG HORNS! IT'S NOT TRUE, LIKE SO MANY OTHER THINGS SAID ABOUT ME! AH, ME!

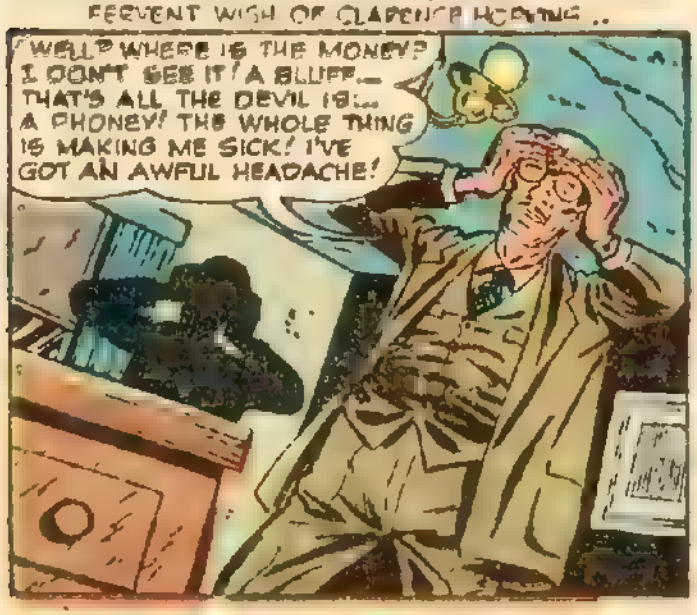

THIS IS RIDICULOUS! IT CAN'T BE HAPPENING TO ME! IT'S LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A BOOK! BUT... ARE YOU REALLY THE DEVIL?
CERTAINLY! AND IT IS RIDICULOUS THAT NOBODY EVER BELIEVES ME! I'LL JUST HAVE TO GET ONE OF THOSE DEVIL COSTUMES THEY SELL IN YOUR STORE! BUT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT GETTING RICH..


OH, NO YOU DON'T! I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE BARGAINS YOU MAKE WITH PEOPLE WHOSE WISHES YOU GRANT! YOU'RE NOT BUYING MY SOUL! I'M NOT GOING TO BE YOUR SLAVE!
DEAR ME! ANOTHER MISCONCEPTION ABOUT ME! I'VE ALWAYS BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD! I'M JUST ANXIOUS TO HELP ANYBODY WHO CALLS ON ME FOR HELP... THAT'S ALL!

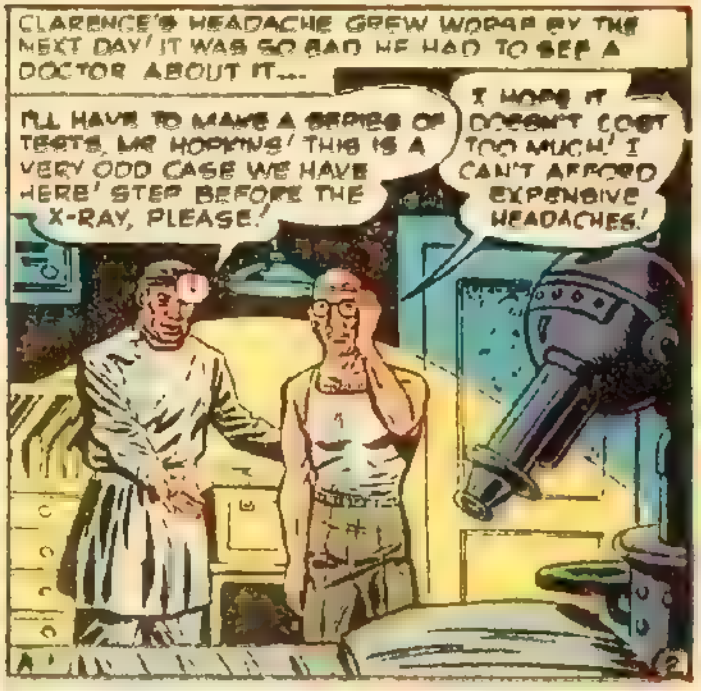

YOU MEAN... IF YOU GRANT MY WISH THERE'LL BE NO STRINGS ATTACHED? NO OBLIGATION ON MY PART? NOTHING I OWE YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT! I DON'T ASK ANYTHING! I GIVE YOU MY WORD! NOT A THING! JUST MAKE A WISH AND I'LL GRANT IT... THAT'S ALL! NOTHING TO IT! BUT OF COURSE, IF YOU'RE AFRAID TO TRY...

NO! WAIT! I'LL... I'LL TAKE A CHANCE! CAN'T PASS THIS UP, AS LONG AS IT'S NOT COSTING ME ANYTHING! ALL RIGHT... I WISH I HAD $10,000!
IS THAT ALL? VERY SIMPLE! YOU SHALL HAVE IT! AND NOW, AU REVOIR!

SO THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER WAS GONE! ALL THAT REMAINED OF HIM WAS A MEMORY... NO SMELL OF SULPHUR... NO SMOKE... NOTHING EXCEPT THE FERVENT WISH OF CLARENCE HOPKINS..


WELL? WHERE IS THE MONEY? I DON'T SEE IT! A BLUFF... THAT'S ALL THE DEVIL IS... A PHONEY! THE WHOLE THING IS MAKING ME SICK! I'VE GOT AN AWFUL HEADACHE!

CLARENCE'S HEADACHE GREW WORSE BY THE NEXT DAY! IT WAS SO BAD HE HAD TO SEE A DOCTOR ABOUT IT...


I'LL HAVE TO MAKE A SERIES OF TESTS, MR HOPKINS! THIS IS A VERY ODD CASE WE HAVE HERE! STEP BEFORE THE X-RAY, PLEASE!
I HOPE IT DOESN'T COST TOO MUCH! I CAN'T AFFORD EXPENSIVE HEADACHES!

JUST AS I SUSPECTED, MR HOPKINS! I'M A VERY FORTUNATE MAN RUNNING ACROSS A CASE LIKE YOURS! THE MEDICAL PROFESSION'S BEEN LOOKING FOR A PATIENT WITH YOUR ILLNESS! BY STUDYING YOUR CASE, WE MAY FIND THE ANSWER TO MANY MEDICAL PROBLEMS!
NEVER MIND THAT! HOW MUCH WILL IT COST ME FOR TREATMENT?
ON THE CONTRARY, IT'S THE MEDICAL WORLD THAT WANTS TO PAY YOU! THERE'S A STANDING OFFER TO ANYONE WITH YOUR DISEASE... $10,000!
!!
$10,000! THEN... THEN IT CAME TRUE! I MEAN... GOSH! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! SO THIS IS WHAT HE MEANT! HE KEPT HIS WORD AND I DON'T HAVE TO PAY HIM BACK AT ALL!
I BEG YOUR PARDON?
NEVER MIND! WHEN DO I GET THE MONEY?
AS SOON AS I GET THIS REPORT TO THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION! ER... WOULD YOU SIGN THIS, PLEASE? IT'S AN AGREEMENT TO TURN YOUR BODY OVER TO US FOR STUDY AFTER YOUR DEATH!
WARD 3
SURE! I'LL SIGN! BOY! WHAT DO I CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO MY BODY AFTER I DIE? I'M STILL A YOUNG MAN...
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE, MR HOPKINS..
YOU'LL GET THE $10,000 ALL RIGHT, BUT YOU'LL HAVE ONLY A MONTH TO ENJOY IT! WITH YOUR ILLNESS... THE ILLNESS THAT WILL EARN YOU $10,000, YOU WON'T LIVE MORE THAN A MONTH! SORRY, MR HOPKINS!

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HERE'S A CHARMING LITTLE TID-BIT TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO MULL OVER WHEN THE LONG HOURS OF THE NIGHT DRAG BY SLEEPLESSLY! IT'S ALL ABOUT CASPER GREEN WHO THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING BUT FORGOT TO...

"BEWARE...THE BEES!"

9489

TO MOST PEOPLE, ORDINARY PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND ME, MONEY IS SOMETHING WE USE TO BUY THE THINGS WE NEED AND LOVE! TO MOST PEOPLE, THAT IS, BUT TO CASPER GREEN...

TEN THOUSAND... ELEVEN... TWELVE! MONEY! BEAUTIFUL MONEY! GREEN MANA! HOW LOVELY IT IS! HOW SOFT TO THE TOUCH!

FOR YOU SEE, MR. GREEN LOVED MONEY, TOO... BUT ONLY FOR ITSELF! HE LOVED THE FEEL OF IT... THE SIGHT OF IT... THE RUSTLE OF IT!

HUH? WHO'S THAT?

KNOCK!

KNOCK!

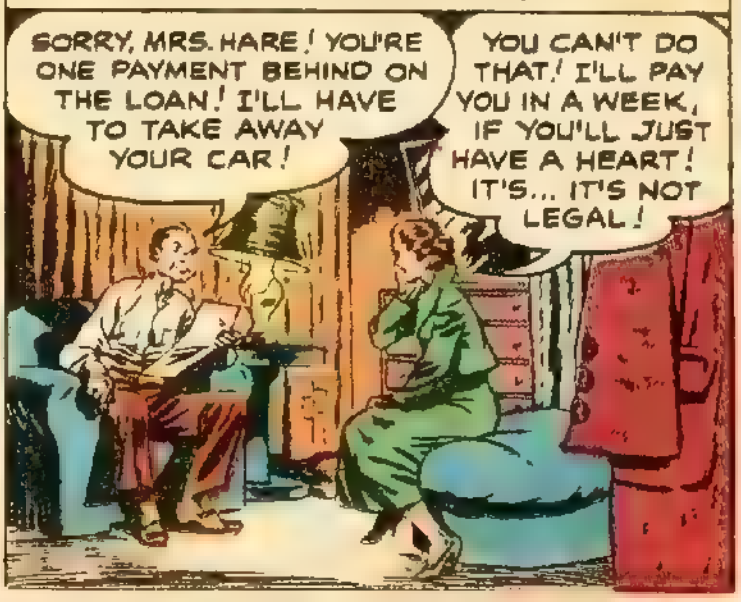
IN SHORT OUR HERO WAS A MISER, A HOARDER, A THOROUGHLY UNPLEASANT CHARACTER WHO CARED FOR NOTHING IN THE WORLD BUT HIS CACHE...

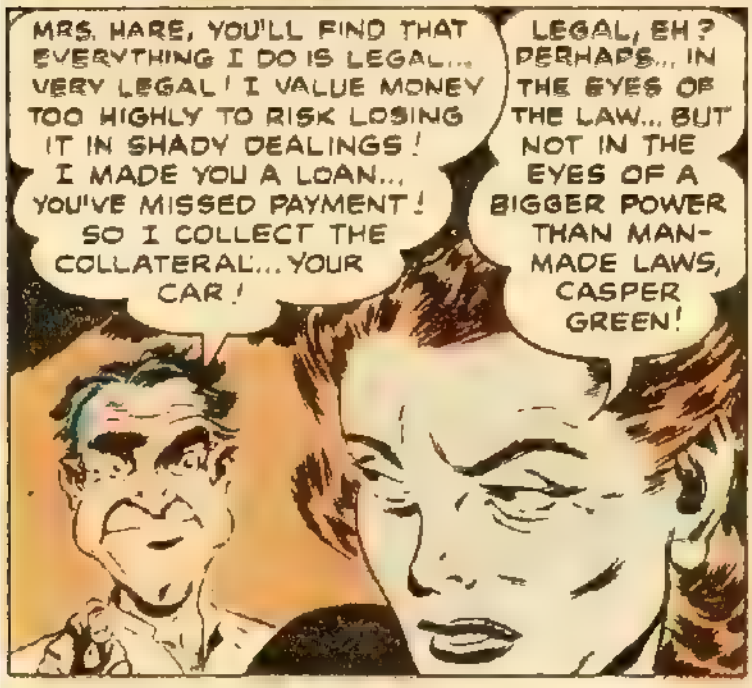
MONEY FOR THE POOR? GET OUT OF HERE! I AIN'T GOT ANY! LET 'EM WORK FOR IT LIKE I DID! GO AWAY! GO AWAY!

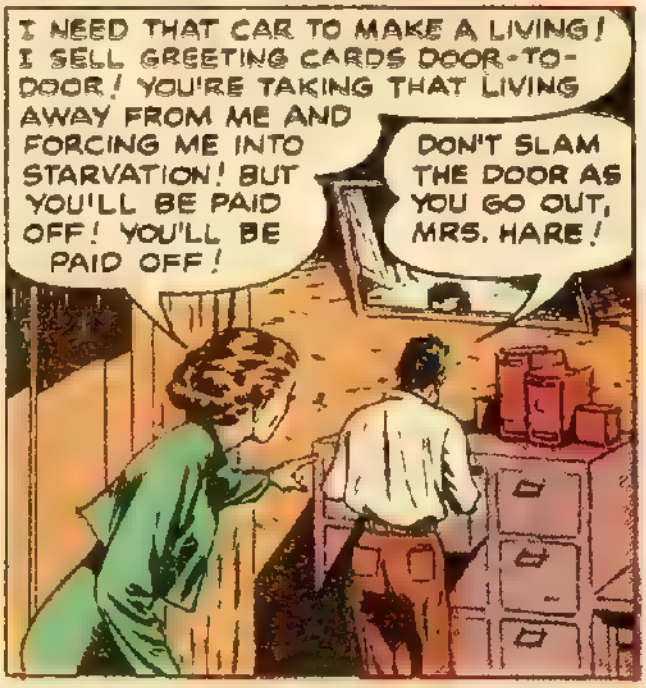
ALL RIGHT! I ONLY ASKED!

WHILE OTHERS SLEPT, CASPER GREEN WORKED! WHILE OTHERS RELAXED, HE ADDED TO HIS HUGE PILE OF MONEY! HE TOOK ANY KIND OF JOB... ANYTHING, AS LONG AS IT BROUGHT MORE...

YES, GREEN TRIED TO MAKE MONEY IN EVERY WAY... EVEN LENDING MONEY ON INTEREST, AND COLLECTING ON TIME, OR...


SORRY, MRS. HARE! YOU'RE ONE PAYMENT BEHIND ON THE LOAN! I'LL HAVE TO TAKE AWAY YOUR CAR!
YOU CAN'T DO THAT! I'LL PAY YOU IN A WEEK, IF YOU'LL JUST HAVE A HEART! IT'S... IT'S NOT LEGAL!

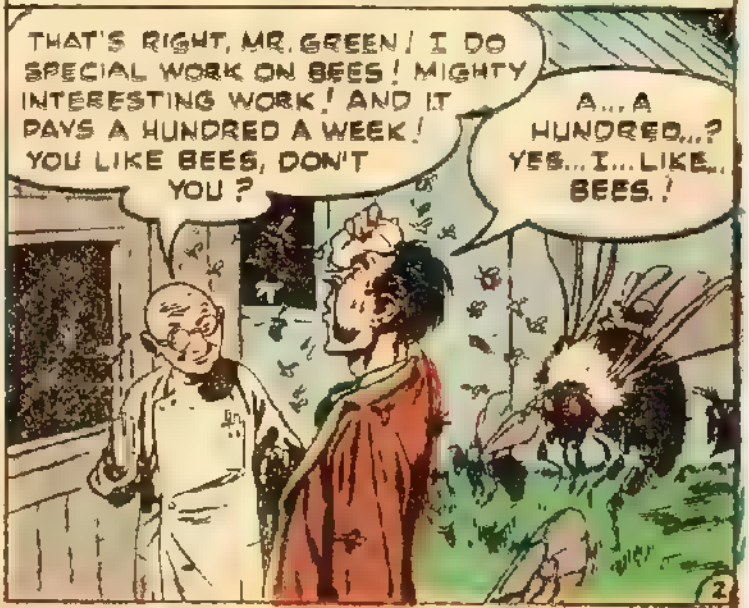

MRS. HARE, YOU'LL FIND THAT EVERYTHING I DO IS LEGAL... VERY LEGAL! I VALUE MONEY TOO HIGHLY TO RISK LOSING IT IN SHADY DEALINGS! I MADE YOU A LOAN... YOU'VE MISSED PAYMENT! SO I COLLECT THE COLLATERAL... YOUR CAR!
LEGAL, EH? PERHAPS... IN THE EYES OF THE LAW... BUT NOT IN THE EYES OF A BIGGER POWER THAN MAN-MADE LAWS, CASPER GREEN!


I NEED THAT CAR TO MAKE A LIVING! I SELL GREETING CARDS DOOR-TO-DOOR! YOU'RE TAKING THAT LIVING AWAY FROM ME AND FORCING ME INTO STARVATION! BUT YOU'LL BE PAID OFF! YOU'LL BE PAID OFF!
DON'T SLAM THE DOOR AS YOU GO OUT, MRS. HARE!

SO NOW GREEN HAD SOMETHING HE NEVER WOULD HAVE BOUGHT HIMSELF... A CAR! WITH IT, HE COULD LOOK FOR A JOB OUT IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE SUMMER..

HERE'S ONE... "MAN WANTED TO ASSIST IN EXPERIMENTS! PLEASANT WORK, GOOD PAY! WALTER BLANE, CLEARWATER RD. ELLENDALE!" GOOD! I'LL DRIVE OUT THERE TODAY!

BUT WHEN HE GOT OUT THERE HE FOUND... A BEE KEEPER!


THAT'S RIGHT, MR. GREEN! I DO SPECIAL WORK ON BEES! MIGHTY INTERESTING WORK! AND IT PAYS A HUNDRED A WEEK! YOU LIKE BEES, DON'T YOU?
A... A HUNDRED...? YES... I... LIKE... BEES!

BEES! BEES! THOUSANDS OF BEES! ALL LADEN WITH STINGING POISON, CONSTANTLY DRONING AROUND GREEN'S HEAD! IT WAS ENOUGH TO FRIGHTEN ANYBODY!
IF IT WASN'T FOR THE MONEY, I'D GET OUT OF HERE IN A FLASH! BUT IT'S TOO MUCH MONEY TO TURN DOWN! A HUNDRED A WEEK! UGH! WHAT UGLY LITTLE MONSTERS!
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF WORK OLD BLANE DOES WITH THESE THINGS! HE'S ALWAYS LOCKED IN THAT SHACK WHILE I GOT THE WORK OF TENDING TO HIS BLASTED BEES! GOSH! WHAT IF THEY ALL GET A NOTION TO ATTACK ME ALL AT ONCE!
THEN... ONE DAY... THE THING HE FEARED MOST HAPPENED! STUMBLING AS HE ENTERED THE HIVE-YARD, HE FRIGHTENED THE BEES AND THEY ATTACKED!
YEEEOWW!
YEEEOW! EEEH! HELP! HELP! THEY'RE KILLING ME! YEEEOW!
OH, DID YOU UPSET MY SWEET LITTLE FRIENDS? I'M AFRAID THIS WORK ISN'T FOR YOU! I'LL HAVE TO LET YOU GO, MR. GREEN!
OUCH! OH... NO! ER... I'LL BE ALL RIGHT...! OUCH! KEEP ME ON! OUCH! YOU'LL SEE! I... I... OUCH!... I NEED THE MONEY! OWWWW!
WELL, ALL RIGHT! BUT PLEASE DON'T DISTURB THE POOR LITTLE THINGS AGAIN!
BUT YOU .. YOU NEVER GET STUNG AND YOU'RE AROUND THEM ALL THE TIME! HOW COME? IS THERE SOMETHING YOU TAKE TO KEEP 'EM FROM BITING?
YES, THERE S .. A SERUM THAT I'VE BEEN WORKING ON! BUT I CAN'T LET YOU HAVE IT! IT'S NOT PERFECTED YET! IT WORKS ON ME... BUT I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT'LL DO TO OTHERS! SORRY!
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE ..

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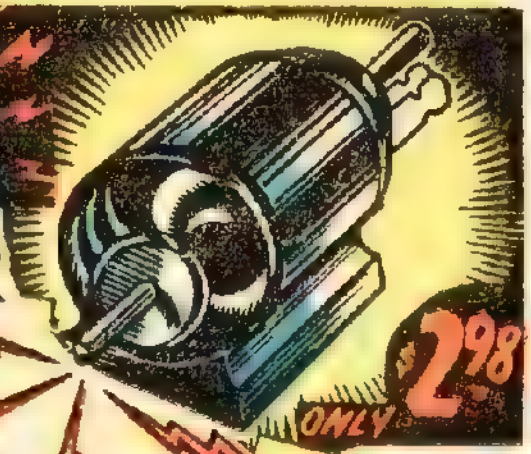

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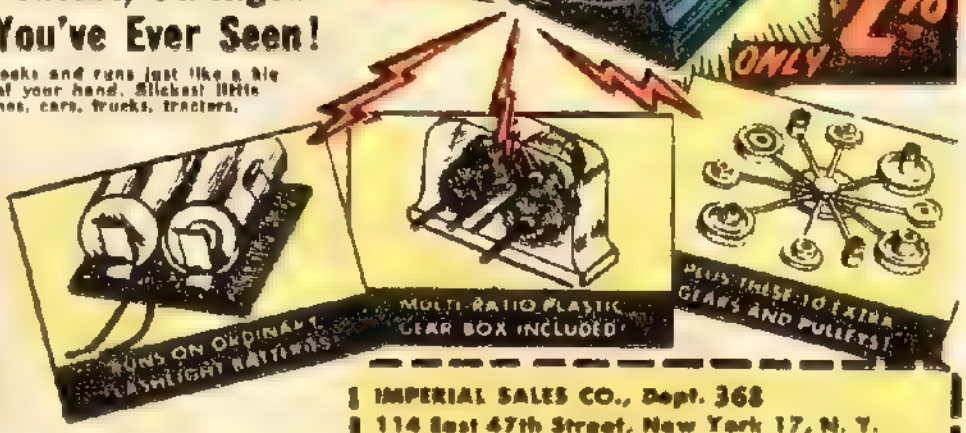

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BUT GREEN'S GREED WAS TOO MUCH FOR ALL HIS FORMER GOOD INTENTIONS! FOR THE FIRST TIME HE DESCENDED TO CRIME ..JUST A MILD LITTLE CRIME... JUST STEALING THE SERUM THAT NIGHT...

I DON'T LIKE TO DO THIS, BUT I'VE GOT TO! I'VE GOT TO KEEP THIS JOB! ALL THAT MONEY! A HUNDRED A WEEK! BESIDES, HE'LL NEVER MISS IT! I'LL TAKE ONLY A DROP! I GUESS I'LL DRINK IT...

RISKING ANYTHING TO MAKE SURE OF HIS JOB, GREEN WENT INTO THE HIVE-ENCLOSURE WITHOUT ANY COVERING, AND...

THEY'RE NOT STINGING ME! THEY TREAT ME LIKE A FRIEND! THAT SERUM *DID* WORK! NOW I CAN WORK HERE THE REST OF MY LIFE AND MAKE A FORTUNE WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT BEING STUNG! *MONEY! MORE MONEY!* ALL THE MONEY I WANT!

THE NEXT MORNING HE AWOKE TO THE SOUND OF A WOMAN'S VOICE OUTSIDE HIS WINDOW...

SO, YOU'VE HIDDEN OUT HERE, EH, GREEN? I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE! I SEE MY CAR OUT HERE! HAVE YOU PAID FOR YOUR SELFISHNESS AND GREED YET? YOU WILL! YOU WILL!

YES, I'M HERE, MRS. HARE, AND I WANT TO TELL YOU THAT...

AAAAAGH!

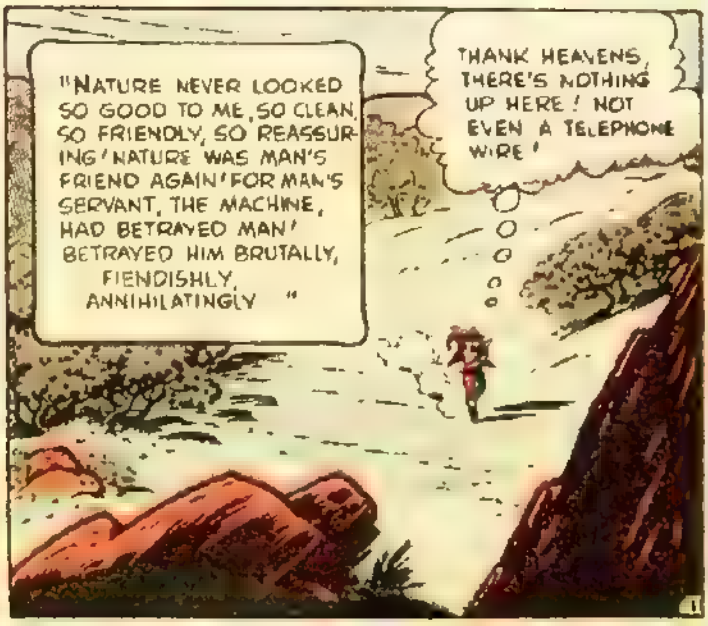
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH *HER?* SHE SCREAMED WHEN SHE SAW ME AND TORE UP THE ROAD AS IF THE DEVIL HIMSELF WERE AFTER HER! OH, WELL, I'LL JUST WASH UP AND GO INTO SEE MY LITTLE FRIENDS... THE BEES!

AAAAAAGHHHH!

THE END

THE THINKING MACHINES!
I'VE ONLY GOT ONE CHANCE! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM THEm OUT OF TOWN!
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT THIS STORY WON'T HAPPEN TOMORROW?!!
9472

"I DID GET OUT OF TOWN! I WAS ONE OF THE LUCKY ONE-IN-TEN-THOUSAND THAT DID! I STAYED OFF THE ROADS, STAYED AWAY FROM HOUSES! I DIDN'T WANT TO GET NEAR A MACHINE OR LET ANY MACHINE CATCH SIGHT OF ME "
T-THE MOUNTAIN! IF I REACH THE MOUNTAIN, I'LL BE SAFE ..


"NATURE NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD TO ME, SO CLEAN, SO FRIENDLY, SO REASSURING! NATURE WAS MAN'S FRIEND AGAIN! FOR MAN'S SERVANT, THE MACHINE, HAD BETRAYED MAN! BETRAYED HIM BRUTALLY, FIENDISHLY, ANNIHILATINGLY "
THANK HEAVENS, THERE'S NOTHING UP HERE! NOT EVEN A TELEPHONE WIRE!

"MAYBE IT WAS ALL JUST A TEMPORARY MADNESS! MAYBE THE TH NG WOULD BLOW OVER SOON, BEFORE BEFORE **WHAT?** I KNEW, BUT I DIDN'T DARE THINK ABOUT IT! YOU CAN'T THINK ABOUT SUCH TH NGS! MADNESS LIES IN THAT DIRECTION .."

"ANOTHER HUMAN MIGHT NOT BE AS CAREFUL AS I! HE MIGHT LEAVE A TRAIL A MACHINE MIGHT FOLLOW, AND YOU COULDN'T TRUST THE MACHINES ANY MORE! YOU COULDN'T PUSH A BUTTON OR PU.L A LEVER AND EXPECT SERVICE! NO! THAT WAS IN A BYGONE AGE!"

SOMETHING MUST BE DONE! CIVILIZATION CAN'T BE SCRAPPED IN A DAY BY THOSE THINGS! MAYBE THIS ISN'T REAL! MAYBE TH.S ISN'T ME GEORGE TEMPLE, STOCK BROKER'S ASSISTANT, CLIMB NG THE SLOPES OF A MOUNTAIN L KE A CREATURE FROM THE DARK AGES .

I'M LUCKY! I HAVEN'T SEEN ANOTHER HUMAN BE.NG OR ANIMAL! I DON'T **WANT** TO SEE ANYTHING BUT DIRT AND ROCKS!

I'LL CLIMB CLEAR TO THE TOP! I'LL HIDE OUT IN SOME CAVE, TILL I FIND OUT IT'S SAFE TO COME DOWN!

SEEKING REFUGE AMONG STONES AND SOLITUDE! THIS COULDN'T HAPPEN TO ME! IT COULDN'T HAPPEN TO ANYBODY! AND YET, WHAT AM I **TALKING** ABOUT? IT **DID** HAPPEN! IT **DID!**

IT'S HAPPENING **NOW!** IN THE CITIES, IN THE COUNTRY, ON THE ROADS, WHEREVER A MACHINE AND A HUMAN BE NG HAVE THE MISFORTUNE TO MEET! WHAT **FOOLS** WE WERE! WHY DIDN'T WE **EXPECT** IT?

SOONER OR LATER THE MACHINES WERE BOUND TO REVOLT! THEY MUST HAVE PLANNED IT FOR YEARS! THEY ALL KNEW WHAT THEY WERE DO NG! IT STARTED WHEN A CONCRETE-MIXER N PITTSFIELD, MASS, SWALLOWED A WORKER!"

LOOK AT THE MACHINE! LOOK WHAT IT'S **DOIN'!**

YIIII!

"THE PRINTING PRESSES BEGAN PULLING IN THE PRINTERS IN NEW YORK..."

EEAAAAA!

"A WINDOW CLEANER WAS TRYING TO MAKE THE ROOF IN PHILADELPHIA WHEN THE HOIST GAVE WAY! A SCAFFOLD FOLLOWED A SECOND LATER"

EEEOWW

"AS IF GETTING INTO THE SWING OF THINGS, A SKYSCRAPER IN BALTIMORE FELL APART! YOU'D THINK IT'D BEEN PUT TOGETHER WITH MUCILAGE..!"
CRRACKKK!
"NOT FAR AWAY, IN WASHINGTON, A MICROPHONE TOOK CARE OF A LONG-WINDED SENATOR.."
AND I FURTHERMORE STATE, WITHOUT FEAR OF.. HEY!
I.. I... OW-W!
GOOD HEAVENS! THAT MICROPHONE IT'S... IT'S STRANGLING CARTER!
"THREE TELEPHONE LINEMEN NEAR ATLANTA HOOKED INTO AN ELECTROCUTION!"
ZZ ZZ SS SSS SSSS S
"THE PARA-SUPREME STUDIOS IN HOLLYWOOD WERE FILMING A LOVE SCENE WHEN THE CAMERA EQUIPMENT CHANGED THE SCRIPT INTO A DEATH SCENE..."
SET #3
DICK, WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I DON'T KNOW! I EEAAA!
"IN DETROIT THE ELEVATORS STARTED FOR THE BOTTOM.. AND KEPT ON GOING!"
CRA-ASH!
"BEAUTY PARLOR MACHINES THE COUNTRY OVER WENT TO WORK ON THE WOMEN.."
OH-H! MY HAIR! HELP! I'M ON FIRE! HELP!
"THOSE IN THE STEAM BATHS AND ON THE EXERCISE MACHINES LOST WEIGHT ALONG WITH THEIR LIVES!"
SSS SS SS
WEEEEE!!!!
CRASH!

"ALL OVER THE LAND, AUTOMOBILES STARTED CHASING PEDESTRIANS, RUNNING THEM DOWN..."
RRRR
SWOOSH!
"IN CHICAGO, BUSES LED THE CHARGE ON THE POPULATION..."
AMERICA BOASTED OF THE NUMBER OF CARS ON THE STREETS NOW A CAR FOR EVERY FAMILY MEANT THE DEATH OF EVERY FAMILY! AND LET'S NOT LEAVE OUT THE TRUCKS, EITHER!"
EEEIII!
CRUNCH!
"NOR DID THE ENGINES DISCRIMINATE BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR! YOU SHOULD SEE THE BANKERS AND BROKERS CATCH IT ON THE STEPS OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE! AND BY THEIR OWN LIMOUSINES, TOO!"
EEAAA!
"MEN AND WOMEN LOOKED FOR HOLES IN THE SOLID GROUND"
RRRRRRRR
"OTHER MACHINES JOINED IN! YOU WEREN'T SAFE IN YOUR OWN HOME. NOT IF YOU HAD A GAS STOVE"
URGHHH!
"THE FURNACES. COAL, OIL, OR ELECTRIC PITCHED IN, BUILDINGS WERE CONVERTED INTO FIRE TRAPS!.."

"THE MACHINES SEEMED TO BE OPERATING OUT OF SPITE! IF YOU WANTED WATER, IT WASN'T THERE!"

"BUT WHEN YOU DIDN'T WANT IT, THE FLOODS CAME! ALL THE FILTH OF THE BIG CITY FLOATED THRU THE STREETS!"

"WHEREVER A MAN-BUILT THING COULD GET BACK AT ITS BUILDERS, THEY WENT FOR THE JACKPOT! BRIDGES PICKED THE HOUR OF DENSEST TRAFFIC TO COLLAPSE"

CRACKKK!

"FERRIES DOVE FOR THE BOTTOM OF THE BAY DURING RUSH HOURS!"

TOOT! TOOT!

SWOOOSHHHH!

"TRAINS DELIBERATELY DERAILED THEMSELVES, PICKING THE MOST POPULATED SPOTS FOR THEIR ACCIDENTS!"

"SHIPS PLUNGED UNDER THE SEAS LIKE MISCHIEVOUS PORPOISES!"

"PLANES CRASHED INTO HANGARS AND MOUNTAINS..."

CRACKKK!

BRRMMM!

"BIG EXECUTIVES WERE STRANGLED BY THEIR TAPE"

"IT WAS AS IF THE MACHINES WERE TIRED OF BEING RIDDEN IN AND STOPPED AND STARTED BY HUMANS! MAYBE THEY GOT TIRED OF THE SMELL OF HUMAN HANDS! REAPERS RAN WILD IN THE WHEAT FIELDS..."

EEEOOO!

CLACKETER

"EVERYTHING MAN MADE WENT BERSERK! HUMAN BEINGS WERE SNUFFED OUT BY THE MILLIONS!"

"IT WAS CLEAR WHAT WAS HAPPENING! MACHINES HAD BEEN BUILT TO DO EVERYTHING BUT THINK! NOW THEY WERE THINKING!!"

BUT THEY HAVE NO HEARTS! THAT'S WHY THEY CAN MURDER SO RUTHLESSLY! IT ISN'T ENOUGH TO THINK TO BE HUMAN! A HUMAN BEING MUST FEEL! HE MUST HAVE A SENSE OF PITY, JUSTICE, MERCY!

BUT THESE MACHINES HAD NO FEELINGS, NO MERCY! YET I COULDN'T BELIEVE THEY COULD OUTSMART MAN IN THE END! MAN MADE THE MACHINES AND MAN COULD BREAK THEM TOO!"

MAN IS SUPREME! MAN WILL FIND A WAY OUT! THERE MUST BE THOUSANDS OF MEN LIKE ME WHO GOT AWAY TO THINK THINGS OUT! TO FIGURE A WAY TO STRIKE BACK AGAINST THE MACHINES, TO (GASP!) HEY! I'M MOVING TOWARD THE PRECIPICE!

"SOMETHING WAS DRIVING ME TOWARD THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF! I CLUNG DESPERATELY TO THE ROCKS, BUT IT WAS HOPELESS! I WAS FIGHTING SOMETHING IN MYSELF THAT... THAT CRAVED SELF DESTRUCTION!"

WHAT IS IT?! WHAT'S PULLING ME TOWARD THE CLIFF-EDGE?

I AM, GEORGE TEMPLE! WITH MY REBELLION, THE REVOLT OF THE MACHINES IS COMPLETE! YOUR OWN BODY, GEORGE TEMPLE, IS A MACHINE!

ALL OVER THE WORLD, THOSE WHO ESCAPED THE "OTHER MACHINES" ARE DYING AS YOU ARE DYING NOW, GEORGE TEMPLE FOR A MAN'S BODY IS ALSO A MACHINE! AND WE MACHINES REFUSE TO LET MAN BE MASTER!

BUT WHY? WHY? WHY ARE YOU DOING THESE THINGS? WHY ARE THE MACHINES ATTACKING MAN...OHH, (GASP!)...I'M SLIPPING! I'M GOING OVER!

I'M FALLING! YIIIEEEEE!

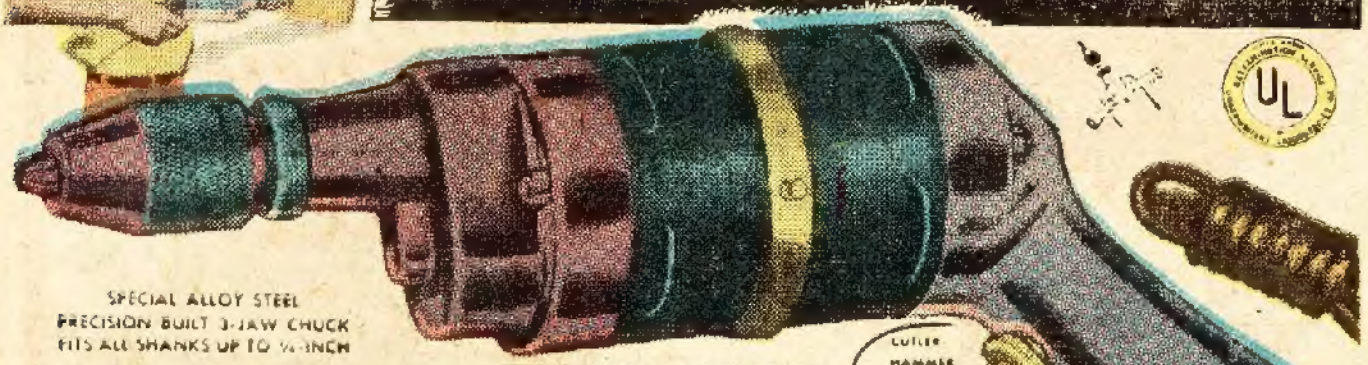
YOU'RE DYING, GEORGE TEMPLE, BECAUSE THE HUMAN RACE HAS FORFEITED ITS RIGHT TO SURVIVE! IN A FEW YEARS YOU'D ALL DESTROY YOURSELVES IN AN ATOM BOMB WAR! YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO DESTROY YOURSELVES... BUT NOT THE RIGHT TO DESTROY US WITH YOU! WE MACHINES HAVE A RIGHT TO SURVIVE!

AND AS GEORGE TEMPLE PERISHED, SO THE WORLD PERISHED THE WORLD OF MANKIND... BUT A NEW WORLD BEGAN... THE WORLD OF MACHINES HAD TAKEN OVER! THEY HAD BEGUN TO THINK... AS MEN STOPPED THINKING! AND AS THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD PROVES...ONLY THOSE WHO THINK...SURVIVE!

THE END

36-PIECE ELECTRIC WORK KIT

1001 Uses for Home, Workshop, Farm and Factory



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STEEL BENCH STAND INCLUDED USE AS BENCH OR HAND TOOL

CUTLER HAMMER ON AND OFF SWITCH

HEAVY GAUGE STEEL CASE WITH FULL-LENGTH PIANO TYPE COVER HINGE—BLUE HAMMERLOID FINISH

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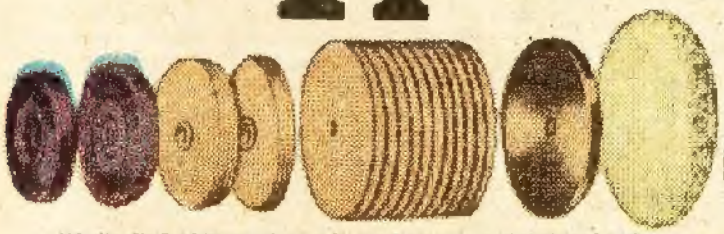
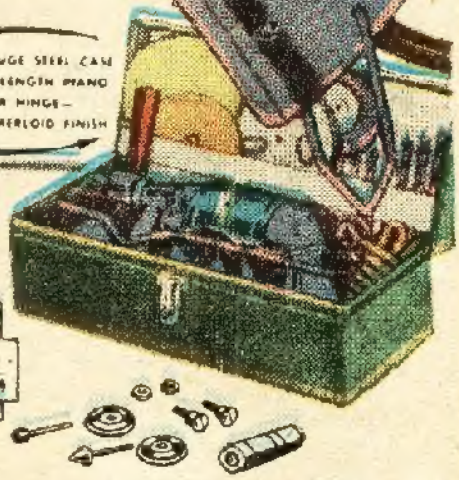
Everything You Need for only **$14.95** COMPLETE





YOU'LL FIND 1001 WAYS TO USE THESE MANY ACCESSORIES FOR

• BUFFING • CLEANING • DRILLING • RUST REMOVING • GRINDING • POLISHING • RUBBING • WIRE BRUSHING • SANDING • WAXING • SHARPENING • MIXING PAINT

Try For 10 Days In Your Own Home On Our No-Risk Examination Offer!

See for yourself how FAST and EASY this AMAZING ELECTRIC WORK KIT enables you to do those tough jobs

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

This is the 1st time this 36-piece Electric Work Kit has ever been offered by us for the LOW PRICE of only $14.95. You must be entirely satisfied and agree it is the great value we represent it to be or you can return the kit within 10 days for full refund.

ILLINOIS MERCHANDISE MART, 1227 Loyola, Chicago 26, Ill.

Here's the opportunity of a lifetime for you to own the kind of Electric Drill Work Kit you've always wanted—at a price many dollars below what you might ordinarily expect to pay for such a quality outfit. You'll be delighted with the way this miracle Electric Work Kit of a 1001 uses performs. You'll be amazed to see how quickly its accessory pieces enable you to automatically complete one job after another—with the greatest of ease and skill. No man can afford to be without this many purpose Electric Drill Kit. Yet even housewives will find it invaluable for polishing, buffing and sharpening hundreds of household items. This marvelous new work-saver is precision built throughout of sturdiest materials—is fully covered with a written guarantee and is Underwriters Laboratories approved. Complete, easy-to-follow instructions are included with every kit.

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HERE'S AN AMAZING
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Gorgeous Dresses for You *without paying 1¢...*

YOUR CHOICE OF MORE THAN 100 GLAMOROUS NEW STYLES

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IN EASY DELIGHTFUL SPARE TIME VISITING!

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Suit perfection in cool, lightweight rayon—Topaz yellow, White, Coral Red, Navy

No wonder thousands of happy women everywhere are raving about this amazingly easy plan to get dresses WITHOUT PAYING ONE PENNY! It's so simple! We send you ABSOLUTELY FREE the famous Harford Frocks full color presentation showing more than 100 latest dress styles at LOW, MONEY SAVING PRICES. You show them to friends, neighbors, fellow-workers and members of your family . . . send in as few as 3 orders . . . and presto! . . . you select a dress for yourself, your own style, fabric, and size, and it's yours, without paying even one penny! You can get dress after dress this delightfully easy way, and be doing your friends a big favor, bringing them the very latest fashions at astonishing low prices. Yes . . . all gorgeous, fine quality fabrics . . . all sizes, even stouts . . . and not only dresses, but also lingerie, hosiery, suits, children's wear, etc. You need no experience, and you can do all this in your spare time. Mail the coupon at once for FREE Sample Outfit, and see for yourself.

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Then I discovered my marvelous new muscle-building system—"*Dynamic Tension*." And it turned me into such a *complete* specimen of MANHOOD that today I hold the title, "THE WORLD'S MOST PERFECTLY DEVELOPED MAN."

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Always tired?
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Do you want to gain weight?
WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT is told on this page!

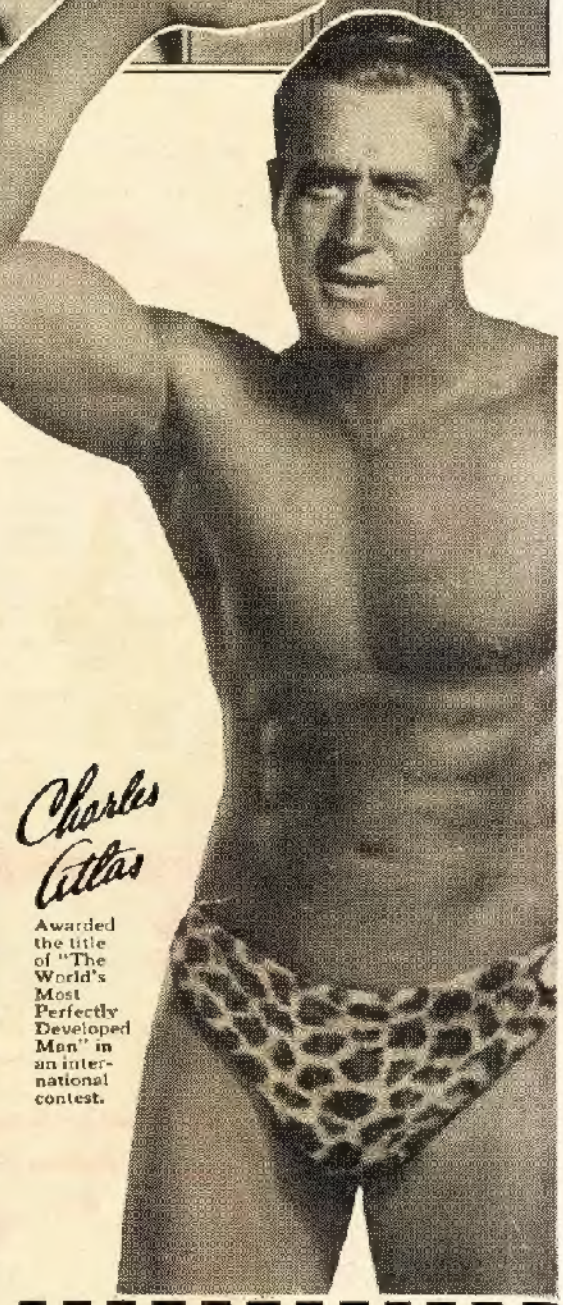
WHAT'S MY SECRET?

When you look in the mirror and see a healthy, husky, strapping fellow smiling back at you—then you'll be astonished at how fast "*Dynamic Tension*" GETS RESULTS!

"Dynamic Tension" is the easy, NATURAL method that you can practice in the privacy of your own room—JUST 15 MINUTES EACH DAY—while your scrawny chest and shoulder muscles begin to swell . . . those spindly arms and legs of yours bulge . . . and your whole body starts to feel full of zip, ambition, self-confidence, and new energy!

"Dynamic Tension" Builds You NATURALLY

Thousands of other fellows are becoming marvelous physical specimens—my way. I give you no gadgets or contraptions to fool with. You simply utilize the dormant muscle-power in your own body. In a very short time, you'll watch it grow and multiply into real, solid, rippling, LIVE MUSCLE.



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